

Greer

Janet Greer

LOONS THROUGH DUCKS

Red-throated Loon--Lake Manawa--April 15--Evelyn Conrad

*Doc. pending*

White Pelican--numerous flocks reported

largest single flock was estimated at 300 birds wheeling over Lake Manawa --May 6--Tanya Bray

Double-crested Cormorant--numerous sightings in area

8--Lake Manawa--March 31--Tanya Bray

1--Lake Manawa--April 3--Melba Wigg

20--April 6--Lake Manawa--Tanya Bray

*max.* 400--Lake Manawa--April 15--Evelyn Conrad

257--Lake Manawa--April 16--Janet Greer

NOTE: Almost all waterfowl sightings were considered late as the ice did not leave Lake Manawa and environs until March 30.

Canvasback--1 pair remained at the Iowa Power and Light Settling Basin as late as May 13--Pottawattamie County--Janet Greer

Red-breasted Merganser--51--April 21 Lake Manawa--Janet Greer

6 --April 30--Lake Anita--Tanya Bray--

Hooded Merganser--late sighting--April 30--Lake Anita--Tanya Bray *Cass County*

DIURNAL RAPTORS

Turkey Vultures--returned to Mills, Pottawattamie, & Harrison Counties on March 23--6 different observers reported on the same day

nest--discovered by northern Mills County farmer on May 13--still on nest May 25--located in a hollow stump in small thicket surrounded by agricultural fields of Missouri River bottomland

Marsh Hawk--Pottawattamie County--March 19--Ruth Green  
*Mills County - March 18 - Barb Wilson*

Swainson's Hawk--northern Mills County--May 13--Ross Silcock

Osprey--2--Lake Manawa--April 2--Babs Padelord and Sandy Kovanda

3--Lake Manawa--April 14--Evelyn Conrad

1--Northest Mills County--April 11 and 12--Barb Wilson--3 miles from nearest body of water

1--Lake Manawa--May 13--Janet Greer *late*

American kestrel--consensus of birders--sightings are few and far between  
3--Mills County--March 23--Ruth Green

HERONS AND BITTERNS

Great Egret--first report--2--Lake Manawa--April 21--Babs Padelord

*Trues Green*

HARRISON, POTTAWATTAMIE, & MILLS COUNTIES, CONTINUED

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Snowy Egret - Lake Manawa - April 23 - Larry Brown doc.  
Cattle egret--2--Iowa Power and Light Settling Basin--Pottawattamie County--  
April 15--Ruth Green

Black-crowned Night Heron--2--Lake Manawa--April 21--Sandy Kovanda  
12--Harrison County farm pond south of Missouri  
Valley--May 8--Ruth Gochenour  
*max.*

American bittern--1--Harrison County farm pond south of Missouri Valley--  
May 15--Ruth Gochenour

SHOREBIRDS

CONSENSUS OF BIRDS--Although habitat was abundant this year, sightings were generally late and not at all easy to come by. May 14 was the single day when shorebirds were abundant.  
The notable exception to this is Woodcock. They were seen by more people in more places than in any year previous.

Piping Plover--1--DeSoto Bend NWR--Harrison County--May 2--Ruth Gochenour

Marbled Godwit--4--April 10--wet meadow north of Missouri Valley in Harrison  
County--Ruth Gochenour

2--May 15--same location--Ruth Gochenour

Stilt Sandpipers--5--March 11

American Golden Plover--sole report--May 2--Iowa Power & Light  
Settling Basin--Mary Catherine Harberg--

GULLS, TERNS

Least Terns--2--Lake Manawa--April 22--Ruth Green

Black Terns--1--May 7--farm pond south of Missouri Valley in Harrison County--  
Ruth Gochenour

the week of May 12--17 they were reported as abundant feeding at virtually every body of water watched in this area

Forester's Tern--returned April 21 to the area

Caspian Tern- 1- Lake Anita- April 30- Tanya Bray- Cass County  
2- Lake Manawa - April 16 - Tim Blant

CUCKOOS

Yellow-billed Cuckoo--1--Northeast Mills County--April 18--Barb Wilson--  
considered here as a very early record  
not easily sighted until May 15--18

HUMMINGBIRDS

Ruby-throated Hummingbird--no reports

WOODPECKERS

*Note about albino Downy enclosed.*

Red-headed Woodpeckers--April 29--Southwest Pottawattamie County--Barb Wilson

abundant - *an admitted personal opinion but the country's lousy with them*

Janet Greer

FLYCATCHERS

Western Kingbirds--12--plowed ~~field~~ field--Northern Mills County--May 13--in company with approximately 20 Eastern Kingbirds--Janet Greer  
*total 18*  
2--Pottawattamie County--May 18--Janet Greer  
2--back yard--May 27--Janet Greer  
2--Harrison County--May 18 + 22--Justin Gochenour

Eastern Phoebe--1--northern Mills County--May 13--Janet Greer  
definite lack of reports *av 13*

SWALLOWS, NUTHATCHES, WRENS

Cliff Swallows--May 14--a good sized colony apparently nesting under the Mormon Bridge (Missouri River bridge at North Omaha, Nebraska)--Janet Greer

Purple Martins--apparently in *u!* usual numbers

Red-breasted Nuthatch--reported as late as May 13 from Mills County

MIMICS, THRUSHES

Mockingbird--May 12--Richter farm in Mills County--Jean Richter

Robins--large flocks began appearing in the area February 11

Hermit Thrushes--scarce

1--Mills County--April 15--Barb Wilson

Grey-cheeked Thrush--early date--May 9--Mills County--Barb Wilson  
*(this year)*

Eastern Bluebird--~~consensus of birders is that they are indeed scarce~~  
6--March 23--Mills County--Ruth Green  
2--May 13--Mills County--Larry Brown

GNATCHATCHERS THROUGH SHRIKES

Ruby-crowned Kinglets--considered abundant April 30 and commonly seen through May 16

Golden-crowned Kinglets--~~NONE!!!!~~

Sprague's Pipit--2--April 11--feild northwest of Missouri Valley in Harrison County--Ruth Gochenour *doc. pending*

Loggerhead Shrike--1--Northest Mills County--March 18--Barb Wilson

VIREOS THROUGH WARBLERS

Bell's Vireo--numerous sightings and reports from all three counties

Warbling Vireo--apparently as usual--I personally felt they might be somewhat fewer in numbers perhaps because mine didn't return this year. Last week I counted 27 songs in different parts of Council Bluffs.

Yellow Warbler--Every birdwatcher in the area is amazed that this bird could be considered endangered! They have been abundant--  
yea, even as thick as the fleas on a dog from April 28--  
May 18 and sightings since then have been common

Black-throated Blue Warbler--May 13--Mills County--Tanya Bray  
Cathy Nelson  
Barb Wilson

American Redstart--especially <sup>common</sup> abundant in Harrison County on April 18

#### BLACKBIRDS THROUGH SPARROWS

Yellow-headed Blackbird--apparently the same immature male put in another appearance at my feeder on March 14 when we were still knee deep in snow--Janet Greer

ORCHARD ORIOLE--consensus of birders--they seem to be more numerous this year than in recent years--I've had many comments on the number of 1st year males.

Pine Siskins--as late as May 6--Missouri Valley--Ruth Gochenour

Dickcissel--first report--April 28--Northeast Mills County--Barb Wilson  
next report--May 18--Harrison County--Janet Greer  
more numerous by May 22 but not present in as great a number as recent years

CONSENSUS OF BIRDERS: The sparrows were in short supply through April when we commonly expect to see them in greater numbers

Savannah Sparrow--only 2 reports

Grasshopper Sparrow--May 5--Mills County--Barb Wilson(sole report)

Vesper Sparrow--1 singing male on fence beside alfalfa field northeast of Missouri Valley in Harrison County--May 18--Janet Greer  
1 singing male in plowed field adjacent to meadow south of Missouri Valley in Harrison County--May 22--Justin Gochenour

Lark Sparrow--no reports

Dark-eyed Junco--disappeared from Mills County on April 11--Barb Wilson

Tree Sparrow--last seen March 30--Mills County--Barb Wilson

Chipping Sparrow--returned April 15

Field Sparrow--returned Mills County March 27--Barb Wilson  
both pair nesting near my home last year failed to return--Janet

Fox Sparrow--returned March 27--Mills County--Barb Wilson--  
few reports this year

White-throated Sparrow--first report--April 22--Mills County--Barb Wilson

Swamp Sparrow--May 2--Willow Slough--Barb Wilson--sole report

Lincoln's Sparrow--April 13--Northeast Mills County--remained until  
May 15--Barb Wilson

Harris Sparrow--last seen May 15--

Snow Buntings--last seen March 7--Barb Wilson--Mills County