

Handwritten initials in blue ink.

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An EQUAL OPPORTUNITY Agency

May 23, 1979

Dr. Nick Halmi
Rt. 6
Iowa City, Iowa 52240

Dear Dr. Halmi:

Below is a list of sightings I have made over the past two months that may be of interest for the next issue of IBL. This has been a great spring for birding here in NW Iowa, perhaps due to season lateness both here and to the north. Since we've had a great variety of birds, and generally in large numbers as well, I will attempt to list only some of those that might be of more interest in this NW part of the state.

<u>Species</u>	<u>date</u>	<u>location & comments</u>
<u>White pelican</u>	April-May	Silver Lake, E. Okoboji, Big Spirit & Little Spirit Lakes, Dickinson Co.--could be <u>summering colonies</u>
<u>D.Cr. Cormorants</u>	April-May	Center Lake, Big & Little Spirit Lakes-- <u>larger than normal numbers</u> all spring.
<u>Marbled Godwit</u>	<u>May 16</u>	6 mi. W of <u>City of Spirit Lake</u>
<u>Wilson's Phalarope</u>	May 14	East Slough, near Ingham Lake, Emmet Co.
Long-billed Dowitcher	May 8	6 mi. W of City of Spirit Lake
Hermit Thrush	May 14	woods near Ingham Lake, Emmet Co.
Tennessee Warbler	May 16-22	Kettleon Hogsback Wildlife Area, NW of City of Spirit Lake--perhaps in largest numbers I've ever seen.
Cape May Warbler	May 16	Kettleon Hogsback Wildlife Area--one male
Blackpolls	May 16-22	Kettleon Hogsback Wildlife Area--very common this year
<u>Connecticut Warbler</u>	<u>May 21</u>	<u>Larchwood Iowa</u> , in ash tree in my back yard. This is the first I've ever seen, but was observed for about 10 min.; eye ring very conspicuous; wife agreed with ID
Wilson's Warblers	May 16-22	Kettleon Hogsback Wildlife Area; very common this year
Orchard Oriole	May 18 & 22	Kettleon Hogsback Wildlife Area; Adult male & 1st year male on the 18th; adult male seen again on 22nd.
N. Cardinal	April-May	Rock Rapids; now common residents in city

(well)

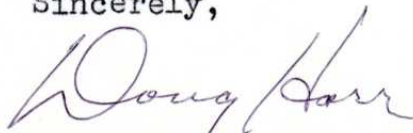
<u>Species</u>	<u>date</u>	<u>location & comments</u>
Indigo Bunting	May 17	Rock Rapids; adult male brought into my office after found dead at base of window of home in city; fairly uncommon in this area
American Goldfinch	May	common all month in Lyon, Osceola & Dickinson Counties; most I've seen in several years
Harris' Sparrow	May 10-15	Larchwood, Iowa; seen daily on ground beneath feeders in back yard
	also May 16	Kettleston Hogsback Wildlife Area

Addenda:

White-fronted geese	April 5,	44 in migrating flock over Rock Rapids
Broad-winged Hawks	April 21	at least 47 in woods between Ingham & High Lakes in Emmet Co.; this is the largest flight I've seen this far west in state
Am. Bittern	May	Common all month on marshes of Dickinson County
Eastern Bluebird	May 17	female seen 4 mi. west of Inwood in Lyon Co.; usually nest here each yr.

Hope this information may be of interest for the field reports section. I'll try to report anything else unusual or of other interest seen between this report and the June 6 deadline.

Sincerely,



Douglas C. Harr
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