

1978
Red Rock Fall Migration Is. Black

1 Western Grebe at lake outside Greenfield La

Seen Nov 15 by G.B. also Janet & Laise Armstrong

Seen Nov 16 by Woody B. + Dick M.

235 white Pelicans on Lake Red Rock Sept 14
Last 11 left on Oct 2.

74 D.C. Cormorants last 10 days Sept. all left
except 8 under heavy hunting pressure Oct 1
Great Blue Herons peaked at 250 at least,
(I must 50 arrived in mid Aug) Most left Oct 1

25 Great Egrets in upper end of Refuge in Sept.
Cattle Egrets - 11 at Larry farm N.E. of Puddle
week of Sept 25. also 1 No. of Puddle on cattle farm Oct 7-10

1 Whistling Swan on Rock Creek Lake in Jasper County
Sat. Nov 18 seen by D.C. biologist John Klein,
(Location is near Kellogg's da, I think)

Geese - about 2000 Snows + Canadas in
Refuge Oct. and fewer there Oct + Nov.

Ducks - all common species in Refuge in
small numbers.

about 50,000 Mallards there Nov.

Turkey Vultures - 50 over Red Rock Bluff in early Sept
50+ " Elk " " " " " "

2 Osprey in first 2 weeks of Sept - Lake Red Rock

1 Golden Eagle with shad wing rescued near Carlisle
in Warren County Nov 9. Kept it over night,
then sent to D S H Vet. Clinic

Bald Eagles - only 4 or 5 (to my knowledge)

over

2) 1 Merlin captured in Mist net Oct 3 at Paul & Mary Felsing's home near Red Rock dam

Shrikes, poor, high water

Ring-billed Gulls peaked at 1000+ in Oct and early Nov.

Caspian Terns 25 seen in Aug + Sept.

Nighthawk - 1 flock over Puelle in late Aug
1 " fairly large over Mile Long Bridge, upper lake, early Sept.

Chimney Swifts - few seen.

Ruby Thr. Hummer - last one Oct 10 in Puelle
Came to area where syrup feeder had been removed 10 days before.

Flickers - good migration, in Sept.
flocks seen feeding on ground.

Red-headed Woodpeckers - all left Red Rock area by mid Sept.

Vireos + warblers - I saw few but the Felsing's banded many of both in Aug + Sept.

Red-wing Blackbirds - I'm sure at least 2 million spent each night in Refuge during Sept + early Oct.

White Crowned Sparrows - a flock of 16 again at my cousin's feeders near so, edge of Refuge moved in last week of Nov. Overwintered there past 2 winters.

Black

Pleasantville, Ia
50225
Oct 7, 1978

Dear Nick:- I am planning a story for A.M. Sunday Register requesting readers to report any rare birds immediately. Too many wanted weeks last year and consequently were gone by the time reliable birders came to identify 'em. i.e. Varied Thrush near W.D.M., possible Anhinga near Adell etc.

So please send me the info you want included in "The Rare Bird Alert" and names of birders to contact in various sections of Iowa.

I will be glad to accept calls and then refer 'em to nearest reliable birder.

I think this should be printed in early Nov. Perhaps O Ho Knauth could then repeat it in Jan. I have found I rec'd most reports when Larry Stone, O Ho K, + I all had stories spaced a few weeks apart of course,

we now have good coverage in NW Iowa with Slung Horn and Vander Linden.

Sincerely,

Glady Black

PS. If you have already arranged for a press release, let me know and I'll drop my plans.

at least 200 white Pelicans here mid Sept on. Last
11 left Oct 2

74 DP Cormorants counted nightly in dead trees
roosts at west foot of Red Rock Bluff during
the same period. All but 8 left when the Refuge
became a "battle field" with opening of duck
hunting. Worst ever this year. Sound of gunfire
could be heard 2 miles south of Refuge border!

11 Cattle Egrets on dairy farm a mile south of
Refuge, (5 mi. NE of Diville) for past week. Larry
Stone of R+S hopes to get pects today, says he
has never seen a Cattle Egret!

A Merlin was netted by Paul + Mary Felsing
early this week. As Jon Steavers was preparing
to band it, it escaped. Ted Jon was read
as a Hornet.

Nothing exciting here otherwise.

LB