

Pied-billed Grebe to Swainson's Hawk
Schaufer

FIELD REPORT

FALL 1978

Pied-billed Grebe--No large concentrations noted, 15 were at Sweet Marsh Sept. 21.
Great Blue Heron--The numbers of this species peaked on August 16 on Mississippi River near Lansing, Allamakee Co., with 25 or more being present there. The high at Sweet Marsh was 16 on Sept. 21.

Cattle Egret--One at Lansing August 16.

Great Egret--Seven were at Lock#9 on Oct. 21, with two still present on Oct. 28.

Black-crowned Night Heron--One found, an immature at Sweet Marsh on Sept. 16.

Least Bittern--One found, Union Slough on August 27.

American Bittern--One at Union Slough on Aug. 27.

Canada Goose--A very small (slightly larger than a Mallard) was found at the Lansing power plant on August 16. This bird seemed injured since it could not be flushed, it was rather wary though.

American Black Duck--This duck occurs uncommonly in the state, most easily found on Mississippi, but even there it isn't numerous. Numbers this fall were up with ten found (6 at Lansing and four at Lock#9) on Miss. on Nov. 28. All fall at least 5 could be found on the river.

Canvasback--Huge concentrations occurred at Lock#9 from Oct. 20 to Nov. 20. Highest estimates of 4500 to 5000 on Oct. 23, the average between the dates given was 1000.

White-winged Scoter--One male found at Nashua, Chickasaw Co., Oct. 24, (see documentation).

Osprey--Good fall migration with six being found August 30 to Oct. 19, in ne.

Northern Harrier--Excellent numbers for fall migration. With 29 found from Aug. 16 to Nov. 28. The birds were usually seen as singles. Last year over the same time period in this area, 20 recorded.

Northern Goshawk--An immature was seen briefly at hawk banding station (located 5 miles s. of Lansing) then quickly lured into nets to be captured. Measurements of the bird proved positively that the identification was correct. The bird was seen only by Dean Roosa and I, on Oct 23 then released.

Sharp-shinned Hawk--From Sept. 9 to Nov. 28, thirty-one were recorded in ne., peak movement was after the middle of Sept.

Cooper's Hawk--Two were positively seen; one at banding station which killed the lure pigeon then escaped, location of the banding station is 5 mi. s. of Lansing, the second bird was seen by Darwin Koenig and I three mi. s of Highlandville. Both of these were in Allamakee Co., the first was seen on Nov. 1, the second on Nov. 3.

Red-shouldered Hawk--An adult was found at Sweet Marsh, Bremer Co., Aug. 22.

Broad-winged Hawk--Chris Cudsworth, of Decorah observed 300 at Decorah on Sept. 19.

Swainson's Hawk--An adult and two imms. were found at Waucoma, Fayette Co., Aug 22.

Rough-legged Hawk--First found Oct. 13, the numbers this fall was less than last years, but on Nov. 21 eight were found in the ne., most of these in Fayette Co.

Golden Eagle--It is easy to find this species in fall and winter in Allamakee Co.. Four were found (3 adults, 1 imm.) on Nov. 24; a pair soaring s. of Highlandville, the other two were found five mi. sw. of New Albin. Des Moines observers (Dick Mooney, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Armstrong) guided by Larry Stone and I found an adult at Lock#9 and an immature of a distinct plumage w. of New Albin on Nov. 28. (See documentation for first four birds).

American Kestrel--Few were seen this fall in migration, however 8 seen in ne. on Nov. 28 is unusual.

Hudsonian Godwit--One at Nashua, Chickasaw Co., Aug. 27.

Spotted Sandpiper--A late bird was found at Lock#9 on Oct. 13.

Western Sandpiper--At last this species is identified in the ne.. Four were studied at leisure, at Nashua by Alan Branhagen and I on August 27. The birds were seen in the company of Least and Semipalmated sandpipers, at close range, good light with telescope.

Baird's Sandpiper--One found at Rossville, Allamakee Co. on Sept. 4.

Dunlin-- Found at Lock#9 on two occasions; thirty there Oct. 21, two on Oct. 28.

Stilt Sandpiper--Four were found at Sweet Marsh Aug. 21 to Aug. 24, at Nashua 13 were found on Aug. 27.

Forester's Tern--Nineteen were found at Lansing on Miss. Aug. 16; five were found at Nashua on Aug 27.

Black Tern--Few seen during the period; 3 at Sweet Marsh on Aug. 11.

Short-eared Owl--Two found; one at Highlandville, Allamakee Co., Nov. 24, one at St. Lucas Nov. 28.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird--Good numbers; 37 seen Aug. 11 to Sept. 16 in ne.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker--None seen during period is unusual.

Red-headed Woodpecker--Once again this bird moved out of the area, this was observed in Sept. with few, even less than last fall left.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher--A singing bird was closely observed at Union Slough by Alan Branhagen and I on Aug. 27. On Sept. 2, I used a taped song and was surprised to find at least two birds answer at Meyer Lake, Winneshiek Co.

Alder Flycatcher--On August 11 three birds were found singing in an isolated part of Sweet Marsh. These were probably summer residents still on territory as opposed to singing migrants.

Olive-sided Flycatcher--Common this fall; Eleven were found Aug. 10 to Sept. 3.

Blue Jay--On Sept. 24 an estimated 800 were seen moving along the Mississippi in an hour, and about 100 more were seen at Yellow River Forest. These observations were made by a Luther College bird study group and I. The Jays were seen in small flocks most at low levels from the treetops moving southward.

Red-breasted Nuthatch--Fair numbers this fall, nothing like last fall. Five were found Nov. 24, in Allamakee Co. being the highest one day total.