

Schaufendael

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FIELD REPORT
SPRING 1979

Common Loon--Seventeen observed in n.e. March 31 to May 9, high count of thirteen at Nashua, Chickasaw Co., April 13. high for spring

Horned Grebe--Ten found in n.e., April 15 to May 11 was an average count.

Western Grebe--One at Nashua, Chickasaw Co., May 4.

American White Pelican--Were found at Nashua April 13 to April 21, high of seven-
teen there on April 15.

Double-crested Cormorant--Best migration in years in n.e. over 75 found April 14
to May 13, peak of 55 at Nashua, April 15.

Great Blue Heron--Evidently down or declining, migration was unimpressive.

Cattle Egret--One found at Sweet Marsh, Bremer Co., April 29, less numerous than other recent spring counts.

Great Egret--Poor migration on Mississippi, however inland along smaller waterways it was rather common. High of six at Nashua, on April 13.

Black-crowned Night Heron--Four on April 21 and twelve on May 9 at Sweet Marsh.

American Bittern--Three found in n.e. on May 1, (one at Waucoma, Fayette Co.; 2 at Sweet Marsh).

Whistling Swan--Thirty-five were at New Albin, Allamakee Co., March 31.

Greater White-fronted Goose--Flocks were found at Sweet Marsh; thirty on March 25 and six on March 27.

Snow Goose--This species was rather scarce in n.e. this spring, with two seen.

loc.

Greater Scaup--Three (one female, two males) found at New Albin (this should be the most likely place to encounter this species; extreme n.e. Iowa), on April 14. Were well seen and compared directly with Lesser Scaup as well as other ducks. See documentation.

Red-breasted Merganser--Seemed more common than normal, with a high count of 40 plus at Nashua, April 13.

Osprey--Very good migration indicating an increasing population, with the most ever recorded. Twelve seen April 14 to May 9 in n.e.

Bald Eagle--An immature at Sweet Marsh, May 5. An adult at New Albin May 12 raises the possibility of breeding.

Northern Harrier--Over thirty found March 13 to May 5, in the n.e.

Sharp-shinned Hawk--Twenty-four found in n.e. Feb. 25 to May 11, down.

Cooper's Hawk--Six found during period in n.e., the ratio of the Sharp-shinned to Cooper's 4 to 1 indicates a decrease in the first and a definant increase in the latter.

Red-shouldered Hawk--Singles were found at Sweet Marsh March 3, March 30, and April 29.

Swainson's Hawk--Three migrants found; April 8, April 10, and April 17 in n.e. The pair near Randalia has not reappeared, however a pair was discovered at Waucoma, Fayette Co., April 29, and is still present.

loc. Sandhill Crane--One was at Sweet Marsh April 16&17. See documentation.

loc. Yellow Rail--One was flushed, Sweet Marsh May 5. See documentation.

Common Gallinule--Six were found on a marsh at New Albin May 12.

Piping Plover--Three were at Nashua May 9, one was still there May 11.

Black-bellied Plover--One at Nashua May 11.

Marbled Godwit--One at Nashua April 15.

Hudsonian Godwit--Good numbers, thirteen found in n.e. May 9 to May 13. Five of them at Sweet marsh May 9, 4 of them at Nashua, May 11.

Upland Sandpiper--Only three found April 20 to May 6.

Sanderling--Nine at Nashua, May 11. *unusual in spring*

Stilt Sandpiper--Four at New Albin May 1.

Common Tern--One near Fredricksburg, Chickasaw Co., May 13.

Short-eared Owl--One at Hayden Prairie, Howard Co., April 14.

Red-breasted Nuthatch--One at St. Lucas May 6, one at Sweet Marsh May 9.

Eastern Bluebird--Wintering bird found in Clayton Co. Feb. 11.

Bohemian Waxwing--One, with 170 Cedar, at New Albin, Allamakee Co., March 6.

Cedar Waxwing--Large lingering flocks of this species were found at Nashua, as late as May 10. At least 100 were there feeding on fermented apples.

loc. Northern Shrike--Last of three Northerns was seen March 31. See documentation.

Loggerhead Shrike--Four were found April 14 to May 5, none of these were on territory.

White-eyed Vireo--One at Yellow River Forest May 12.

Connecticut Warbler--One found by one group of IOU conventioners at Sweet Marsh on May 13 was heard and well seen.

Brewer's Blackbird--Five were at Nashua April 21.

Henslow's Sparrow--One returned to Volga Lake as early as April 23, another was singing at St. Lucas May 6.

Lapland Longspurs--This species was found regularly into late April, with three sightings in early May, the last of which had a small flock (five or less) at St. Lucas May 6. *case*

Snow Bunting--One was still at Ossian, Winneshiek Co., April 1. *case*

Joe Schaufelbuel