

RR2, Malvern, Iowa
Aug 5, 1979.

Dear Tom,

I hope this makes it in time. Rather meager, especially on Passerines, but I have been unusually busy this summer, what with Dean Roosa's surveys, not to mention business.

Common Loon: Two immatures were at Forney Lake at least through June 17. In late May four were present, but obviously two departed, this late date even so being very surprising for four birds.

Western Grebe: One at Forney Lake June 3-17. Not seen later.

White Pelican: Five were still at Forney Lake June 17. Some signs of courting, but no nesting evidence noted.

Double-crested Cormorant: About 30 at Forney Lake, mostly immatures or prebreeders June 17. Still about 10 at Riverton June # 2 also.

Great Blue Heron: Ten at Riverton June 2, along with four Common Egrets. It appears that there is a heronry nearby, but we have been unable to locate it so far.

Common Egret: See Great Blue Heron.

Least Bittern: None at Forney Lake despite two searches. Five were found last year.

Snow Goose: The usual summering birds at Forney Lake: about 30 June 17.

American Kestrel: Scattered breeding pairs in western Iowa from Fremont Co. north to Woodbury Co. as seen during the Iowa breeding bird survey of Dean Roosa. (five pairs noted, all with young in early June)

Hungarian Partridge: Two in northern Audubon Co., June 15. Apparently a definite southerly range extension in this species at least since last winter (see last year's CBC).

Am Coot: Again nesting at Forney Lake, but in lesser numbers than last year.

Upland Sandpiper: Three seen in different places in Fremont County June 1-17, but no nesting evidence obtained.

Willet: One bird at Forney Lake June 1.

Barn Owl: Two young fledged and flying about by July 31. Still being fed by adults. Nest limb blew down in storm, but this allowed us to band the young and they were replaced in another hole, but a storm again drove them out, and they transferred themselves to a nearby barn.

Cliff Swallow: First large migrating flock (about 250) July 16. Most have now passed.

Regards,
Ron Kitchell

P.S. Sure enjoyed your visit.

Come again anytime - Ron