

Red Rock Summer
Marion County

J. Black

Hawk-crested Cormorant - 1 adult was seen during June and July on the Russell flats (the upper reaches of the 26,500 A Red Rock Refuge)

No nest was located but on Aug 3 and 4, 2 adults and 6 immatures were observed there, perched in a big dead tree.

They probably were migrants but ordinarily avoid fresh A's do not move in until Sept.

Turkey Vultures - at least one summer roost of approximately 30+ birds in the trees on top of Elk Rock Bluff on the south side of Lake Red Rock.

Red-tailed Hawks (Gow Stearers), Pella will probably report on his nest and banding studies in Red Rock area.

American Kestrel - had a single nesting pair was located altho years ago at least 6 nest sites were in the township around Pleasantville.

Yellow-billed Cuckoos - scarce.

Black-billed Cuckoos - scarce

Night Hawk - scarce, 1 pair over Pleasantville during breeding season (over)

2) Ruby-thr. Hummingbird - scarce - 1 at my
friends feeders north of Pville; 2 at
the Jelsing's home (in woods near
south end of Red Rock dam) too much
herbicide spraying.

Red-headed Woodpecker - several seen
but fewer than last year.

Eastern Kingbird - a pair here + there
at old shrubby pastures, population
down.

Western Kingbird - 1 in south Marion
County on June 22, also observed
by 2 @ biologists Al Ferris and
Dick Bishop

Eastern Phoebe - not a single nest
located under any of bridges
and culvert where they formerly
nested for years.

Bank Swallows - 200 observed on
utility lines below Red Rock dam
on July 14, also seen by Gene and
Marilyn Burns of Jamaica.

Cliff Swallows - hundreds on face
of Red Rock dam, both east and west
side, several nests on Mile Long
Bridge. Over 100 were banded
by Ruth + Irene Layton of Okaloosa
at a double culvert a mile north
of Red Rock dam in June.

3) Black
Purple Martins - scarce, fewer at
Marten houses, my neighbor had
only one pair this year.

Eastern Bluebird, very scarce
I was able to locate only 3 pair
the full length of the Red Rock Refuge
and Lake.

Loggerhead Shrike - 4 pair nested
successfully in old blue grass
pastures S.E. of Pleasantville. Two
pair observed elsewhere in P.ville
area but nests not located.

Yellow Warbler 1 pair in an old
60 A pasture. Scarce.

Yellowthroats - good population
in suitable habitat

Yellow-breasted Chat - none along
Rock Island RR where they nested
each summer for years

Red-winged Blackbirds - most numerous
of all breeding birds in this area

Orchard Oriole - 1 pair nested in
old 60 A pasture. Only 1 young.

Combirds are a factor in decline,
along with habitat loss, for sure.

Scarlet Tanager - 1 pair nested in
woods at north end of Red Rock dam.
Male seen feeding a young Combird
but no young Scarlets seen.

(over)

4) Pickreel - numerous but ^{or Black} not the
high counts of 10 years ago.
Masspuffer Sparrows - none seen

In Lucas County near the Red Hawk
Research center, a pair of Long-eared
Owls nested successfully in
a pine tree, two young. Research
done by the team headed by
Biologist Revue George of the
La Conservation Comm.

Also both last summer & this summer
a small 3 nest colony of Green Herons
nested in a pine grove in Lucas
County. The young were wandering
around the tree on June 22 when
I visited there.