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TERRY E. BRANSTAD, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LARRY J. WILSON, DIRECTOR

Wildlife Research Station
RR #1 Boone IA 50036
11 May 1987

Mr. Robert K. Myers
Spring Field Reports Editor
RR 2, Box 153
Perry IA 50220

Dear Bob:

On April 12, 13, and 14 I was in Lucas County and observed a total of 4 Cooper's hawks (*Accipiter cooperi*) at 3 different locations. All 4 birds were giving the constant kek-kek-kek call that indicated a nesting territory. At 2 of the locations, I observed what I believe to be the nest. I will be checking them out in early June for nesting documentation. At the third site a bird giving the territorial call was observed on 2 mornings, but I did not search the area for a nest. I will do that at a later date. There was no question about the bird's identity since they were obvious accipiters, too large for sharp-shinned hawks and giving the constant kek-kek calls. In fact, one of the birds was missing a primary wing feather. We observed the birds in both light and cloudy conditions. In addition to those birds, we (Bruce Ehresman, Pat Schlarbaum, myself) observed a Cooper's hawk here at the Ledges park on Friday, 1 May at about 10:00 a.m. The bird flew over the Research Station, flew around the area, gaining altitude for several minutes, allowing us to look it over with binoculars. The flap-glide pattern of movement, size (too large for sharp-shinned) and rounded end of the tail (which never was fanned during our observations) confirmed Cooper's hawk. We are hoping to get some nesting evidence for this bird in the Ledges atlas block too.

Also, on April 12 I observed and heard 2 Louisiana waterthrushes in the Stephens Forest in NE Lucas County. The distinctive song, which I have heard here at the Ledges often (this morning, in fact) was what caught my attention. Both birds were in bottomlands along small creeks in steep, wooded terrain. One of the birds exhibited a "bobbing" sort of behavior on a limb about 20 feet overhead. The tail would be held erect momentarily and the undertail coverts "flashed" as the bird apparently showed its annoyance at my presence.

I think that about covers my notes until now. If you need additional information or documentation on these sightings, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Douglas A. Reeves
Douglas A. Reeves
Nongame Wildlife Biologist

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SPECIAL SIGHTING REPORT.

Observer: Douglas Reeves/Dewaine Jackson

Address: Route 1, Ledges Road

Boone, IA 50036

Species: Cooper's Hawk (Accipiter Cooperi)

County: Lucas Block: 743

Exact Location: North-central part of Section 5, T72N, R20W. About 70 yards off road into Cedar Creek Unit of S.F.

Habitat: Oak Hardwoods

Breeding Evidence: kek-kek-kek call and fly over of bird, also found probable

Notes: nest (will check later). The nest is in a white oak tree.

Dates - 4-12, 4-13, 87

SPECIAL SIGHTING REPORT.

Observer: Douglas Reeves/Dewaine Jackson

Address: Route 1, Ledges Road

Boone, IA 50036

Species: Cooper's Hawk (Accipiter Cooperi)

County: Lucas Block: 743

Exact Location: NW 1/4, Section 8, T 72N, R 20W. Interior Forest

Habitat: Oak-hickory Forest

Breeding Evidence: Bird called kek-kek-kek. Also found probable nests

Notes: Bird was missing a primary feather on one wing.

Date 4-12/87

SPECIAL SIGHTING REPORT.

Observer: Douglas Reeves/Dewaine Jackson

Address: Route 1, Ledges Road

Boone, IA 50036

Species: Cooper's Hawk (Accipiter cooperi)

County: Lucas Block: N/A

Exact Location: NE 1/4, S 35, T 73N, R 20W.

Habitat: Forest-mixed pine, hardwoods

Breeding Evidence: On 3 days a bird giving the agitated kek-kek call was

Notes: observed in this area. the nest will probably be found later. Dates

4-12, 4-13, 4-14, 1987.

SPECIAL SIGHTING REPORT.

Observer: _____

Address: _____

Species: _____

County: _____ Block: _____

Exact Location: _____

Habitat: _____

Breeding Evidence: _____

Notes: _____