

12/31/79
Brown

Fall 1979 Des Moines

Geese, Ducks. Numerous flocks of geese overhead, but few seen otherwise. Very few ducks - only a few mallards, blue-wings and shovelers identified. Occasional good sized rafts on Saylorville but too far away to identify, even with scope.

Shorebirds. Few seen as there was a lack of mudflats or suitable areas. Solitary Sandpipers relatively numerous compared with last year.

Terns. on 13 Sep 12 Caspian on Big Creek L near Polk City (D. Mooney)

Owls. On 16 Nov. Dick Mooney was told by a Drake student of a flock of owls near Saylorville L. They were there for the third winter but the informant, a hunter and not a birder, wished to know the species. Dick and several other birders visited the area and saw the owls - estimated number of Long-eared ranged from 8 to 12.

Kinglets. Golden-crowned making a comeback with a number seen for the first time in more than a year.

Moody Brown