

Dear Bob,

I have my usual small report for the spring field reports. Just not much field time on my part this spring. Sorry that you were feeling so lousy for the IOU meeting. I just got a glimpse of you and then never got a chance to talk again. I do have some bird skins for you too and will arrange for a transfer of them sometime later this summer. I may get out later this month and will forward on any more info when I get back.

My slim pickings include:

Surf Scoter one male at Ventura Marsh on 22 May (me and everyone else at the IOU meeting)

Piping Plover 2 or 3 at IPS Ponds at Sioux City on 5 May

Ruddy Turnstone Steve and I saw one at Saylorville on 11 May

Cape May Warbler at breeding plumaged male at Hendrickson Marsh on 12 May

Also:

one of former graduate students (Ellen Snyder) saw a Black-billed Cuckoo on 7 May in Ames. She saw it well and got a good look. She used to teach bird study for me so I am confident that she knows what the bird looks like. That is a fairly early date for the species.

Jim

Thought the weather clippings might be of use

Bird notes

House Finch--Erv Klaas had a male and female House Finch at his bird feeder at home on 2 and 3 April.

yellow-headed Blackbird--a male was seen clearly by Darryl Kroeker and the bird study class on 30 March at Anderson Lake. The bird was seen well and the yellow head and black body were both noted. The bird was seen through a spotting scope and seen well by many in the class.

Ruffed Grouse--a male Ruffed Grouse has been seen for several days north of Stratford (near the Boone Forks area) by Clayton Swanson. Swanson said the bird was quite pugnacious and approached him closely with feathers erect, etc. He saw the repeatedly in late March and called me about it on 6 March.

Almost forgot to include