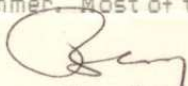


6492 James Francis Place
Johnston, Iowa 50131
July 30, 1988

James J. Dinsmore
4024 Arkansas Dr.
Ames, Iowa 50010

Dear Jim,

I've enclosed my summer report. I can't tell that the heat or drought have affected most birds breeding success. The only possible exception I can think of is the Yellow-crowned Night Herons which I missed this summer. Most of the ox-bows below the dam dried early.



Bery Engebretsen

Cormorant: 13 were present on 6/12, at least 1 still present on 7/22

Great Blue Heron: the Saylorville colony did well again north of the power lines below 66th st. At least fifteen nests were active on July 9th, and almost all fledged one to three young.

Great Egret: 2 on 7/8, and 3 on 7/29, all at Big Creek (B.C.).

Little Blue Heron: I confirmed Steve's find of one adult at B.C., but somehow neglected to record the date.

Yellow-crowned Night heron: this species was not found as of this writing.

Wood Duck: numerous broods were hatched throughout the Saylorville area.

Cooper's Hawk: an adult was present on 7/1 and 7/17, calling loudly, in the same area as the last three years' successful nest but have not yet located a nest or fledgling.

Kestrel: 2 local nest boxes fledged young.

Turkey: this species has exploded here. I saw my first Saylorville Turkey last fall. Since spring, they are everywhere. Two broods hatched near our home along the west side of Saylorville.

Sora: 2 were seen on the north end of B.C. on 7/15.

Semipalmated Plover: six species of shorebirds appeared at the north end of B.C. on 7/15, among them one of this species. All the following shorebirds appeared at Big Creek.

L. Yellow-legs: first appeared on 7/8.

Solitary Sandpiper: first one on 7/15.

Spotted Sandpiper: common along the shores of the lake.

Least Sandpiper: first on 7/8.

Pectoral Sandpiper: first one on 7/15.

Short-billed Dowitcher: two in breeding plumage on 7/15 and 7/29.

Ring-billed Gull: 30 - 35 were present throughout the period at Oak Grove beach.

Forster's Tern: 6 were present on Oak Grove Beach on July 29.

Black Tern: 32 returned to B.C. on 7/15.

Black-billed Cuckoo: only 1 seen on 7/29.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: common along the west shore of the lake.

Pileated Woodpecker: continues to be present in the vicinity of the heron colony.

Willow Flycatcher: common in the shelter belts near Big Creek.

Cliff Swallow: this species remains abundant.

Sedge Wren: common throughout the area.

Bluebird: families are all over the area, thanks to the Corp's nest box program.

Veery: I could find none along the west shore after the spring migration where they have been present the last few summers.

Wood Thrush: only three were found in a two mile stretch on the west side where one was found in '87, three could be found in June of 86 and seven were found in 85. (June 2)

Loggerhead Shrike: a pair was present throughout June and July along 150th st north of the lake.

White-eyed Vireo: 1 was singing vigorously on 6/2 and 7/29 near the Saylorville shooting range.

Bell's Vireo: common in the Big Creek shelter belts.

Prothonotary Warbler: found in three different locations south of 66th st along the river on July 9.

Yellow-throated Warbler: 2 were singing in Sycamores near the heron colony on July 9.

Cerulean Warbler: five singing on June 2, near the Cooper's nest. (usual location)

Redstart: *one male singing on July 18*

Ovenbird: seven were singing within a mile north of Lake View on June 2th, similar to the number in this area the last year.

Louisiana Waterthrush: could not find this year, perhaps because of dry weather.

Orchard Oriole: regularly present in two locations.

Yellow-headed Blackbird: not found this year.

Scarlet Tanager: four were present north of Lake View June 2.

Dickcissel: very common

Grasshopper Sparrow: common throughout the area this summer.