

1988 Summer (June, July) Field Report for Iowa Bird Life

Reporter:

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Weather Report:

Our neighborhood has received almost no significant rainfall during June and July, our two rainiest months in normal times. We have experienced perhaps the worst drought in recorded history with above normal temperatures.

Habitat Report:

More upland habitat available due to the agricultural Conservation Reserve Program. Many intermittent streams in our area have been dry during the Summer period with shallow ponds also nearly dry. The old gravel pit in Tama is providing some excellent mud flat habitat at this time. Iowa River has many exposed sand bars. The Otter Creek Marsh has lower than normal levels.

Species Data:

Willow Flycatcher	1	03 June	Otter Creek Park in s. Tama Co. identified by call other observer: Hank Zaletel
Eastern Phoebe	1	10 June	s. Tama Co. found nesting under bridge in Breeding Bird Atlas Block other observer: Hank Zaletel
Great Crested Flycatcher	2	10 June	Otter Creek Marsh in s. Tama Co. pair feeding young at high cavity
Cliff Swallow	6	10 June	s. Tama Co. several pairs nest building under bridge in Atlas Block 502 other observer: Hank Zaletel
Veery	1	02 July	Salt Creek Wildlife Area in s. Tama Co. heard only, did not see
Scarlet Tanager	1	04 June	Salt Creek Wildlife Area adult male other observer: Margo Kubik
Dickcissel			s. Tama Co. Dickcissel was probably the most common roadside bird in our neigh- borhood this summer
Orchard Oriole	1		S. Tama Co. a first year male was a resident in our neighborhood this summer.