

6492 James Francis Place
Johnston, Iowa 50131
Dec 1, 1987

Dear Carl,

I hope this report isn't too late. It's been a rather strange fall season - warm with no lake ice on Saylorville yet. The highlights:

loon sp.: A small loon was present on the lake on 11/7. I could not determine its exact identification. It had a distinctly dark throat. It was observed by others.

- ✓ grebe, red-necked: one was present on 11/1. Documentation attached.
- ✓ heron, black-crowned: an immature was present on 11/8
- ✓ mallard: only about 3000 were present by 11/30, far below the tens of thousands in previous years before 1986. I hope colder weather will yet bring the large flocks.
- ✓ hawk, broad-winged: I assume I missed the big Kettles. A total of fifty on 9/20
- ✓ merlin: one on 9/12
- ✓ coot: 10,000 on 10/21
- ✓ plover, black-bellied: one on 9/24
- ✓ plover, piping: one was at Oak Grove on 9/5, perhaps left from the three present during the summer
- ✓ avocet: 7 on 8/30 at Oak Grove beach
- ✓ sanderling: 18 at Oak Grove on 9/6; small numbers remained, and 1 was still present until 10/24
- ✓ sandpiper, buff-breasted: one was at Oak Grove on 9/7
- ✓ pipit, water: three on Oak Grove 11/1
- ✓ shrike, northern: one at Big Creek on 11/7
- ✓ sparrow, leconte's: one was still present 11/8 near Oak Grove
- ✓ snow bunting: three were at Oak Grove on 11/7

Ben Engler