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Dear Bruce,

Since I got my summer report mailed to you, I have a few additions, comments, etc. The following two birds were reported to me this weekend and you may want to add them:

White-throated Sparrow-1 heard in full song in Davenport on 7, 13 and 20 Jun and 4, 5 and 18 Jul (AB) is the first evidence of a summering bird in Iowa.

Dark-eyed Junco-1 seen well in Des Moines on 19 Jul (AB, details) is the second summer record for Iowa.

Both by Ann Barker, Davenport

Secondly, I got two photos plus details on the Black-bellied Whistling-Duck. I have enclosed copies of the details. The photos, while not the greatest, do show white wing patches (faint on photos), duck shape with legs extending back past tail, and a bright red bill. I think the bird was correctly identified and could be included in your report although its source clearly is a questionmark. The observer has taken an ornithology course in which we talked about and looked at whistling ducks so he has at least some familiarity with the species.

On the Steller's Jay and Laughing Gull, I put them in the report since this is for our state journal too but they probably shouldn't be listed in AB until the state committee can look at them. As you can see, the documentations aren't the best.

Also, I think that the two Cooper's Hawk nests in Stephens (not Stevens) State Forest were in the spring report and don't need to be repeated for the summer although the total of 6 nests (I have heard rumors of 2 more) is great news for the nesting season as a whole.