

Weather.

Sept. Wettest month in 30 yrs. 10 in.. To date for year 39, in. (11 in. above normal)
Temperature mean was 1.6 below ave.

Oct. Dry. only 1.7 in. of rainfall (ave. is 2.84) Temp. was 2.9 above the average.

The feature of the fall period was the large body of water in the Reservoir which was some 20 feet above the normal level creating a huge lake in the Refuge and west. This attracted the ducks when they arrived and peaked the first week in November with some 20,000 - 30,000 birds (some estimates much higher) Mostly mallards and pintails but an unusually large number of Ringnecks, with a few of other species. Perhaps this also attracted swallows for there were huge flocks (1000) of Bank Swallows earlier (first week of Sept) and later Tree Swallows (Oct. 15 to 25). The usual numbers of coots, and a couple of Horned Grebes.

Mid September produced a numbers of warblers as well as both Kinglets, Red-breasted Nuthatches, and Creepers.

Sparrows in fewer numbers than usual but possibly because much of good area was under water. Fox and Harris were the most easily spotted. Juncos in large numbers but Tree Sparrows late and few.

Late dates. Sept. 5 18 Egrets.

Oct 17 Vulture

Oct 16 a cicada II

' 25 2 Yellow-legs

Nov. 5 3 Loons.

Other dates.

Oct. 29 12 Snow Buntings (photos)

Nov. 18 An Evening Grosbeak (at feeder in town)

Nov. weather . Dry and warm. 3.7 degrees above the ave. rainfall 1.6 in.

No unusual items in Nov. except the large number of ducks which were on the Refuge area of the Reservoir, but mostly mallards. Still some 5000 on Dec. 7, even if most of area was frozen. (not now after all this warm weather.)

Very few birds around, especially hawks. Looks thin for Xmas Count. Also looks like I wont have many for count. When are you doing yours? Took a Mr Burr (of Purdue - has been compiler of 25 Xmas counts there) out one day last week and had our lunch at Macbride Campus outdoors!! He's really a bird lister. Going to Australia next year to get some more.