

Field Reports-Spring 1989

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## Comment

I thank all contributors for sending in their reports on time. That really makes my job easier. Most reporters also included details for unusual sightings. Remember, if you report a rare or out-of-season bird, you need to include some details about the bird if it is to be included in this report. For example, Peregrine Falcons from mid-April to early May probably do not need to be detailed because that is the peak of their spring migration. However, peregrines outside of those times should at least be detailed.

In general, reports came from all areas of the state this spring, although there were noticeable gaps in northeast and northwest Iowa. Please continue to send in reports of birds you see. For some of the more common species, try to limit your report to early or late dates or peak numbers. If you think a common bird is unusual in your area, write that in your report. Otherwise, that record may be omitted from the final report. I thank Jim Dinsmore for helping write this report.

Field Reports - Spring 1989

Stephen J. Dinsman

### Weather Conditions

The lack of precipitation that dominated 1988 continued this spring. There were no major late snowstorms, and March was cooler than normal with little precipitation. April continued this pattern with weekly precipitation totals lower than normal for all except the final week. The first major thunderstorms of the season occurred on 22 April when parts of north-central Iowa received 4 1/2 inches of rain along with several tornadoes. By the end of April, heavy rain and tornadoes had also occurred in parts of central and southeastern Iowa. Both March and April had below average rainfall totals. In general, April and May were cooler than normal, and northeast Iowa received light snow on 6 May. Another series of storms, again accompanied by some tornadoes, passed across Iowa in the last 10 days of May. Still, May rainfall was well below normal, and the January-May period was the seventh driest on record for Iowa. Statewide, through May, Iowa had received an average of 7 inches of precipitation compared to a normal of 11 inches. Generally it was driest in western and parts of north central Iowa and wettest in eastern Iowa.

### General Trends

The first big warming trend of the spring occurred on 6-8 March and many waterfowl, gulls, and other early migrants were detected at this time. Many good species of waterfowl occurred in Iowa this spring, possibly because they were concentrated in areas where there was ample water. Unusual for spring were reports of all three species of scoters. Generally, there were few flooded fields this spring and shorebirding was poor this spring. Few reports of shorebirds were received. However, there were 21 species of shorebirds on 19 May in SW Iowa (SJD). The weekend of 22-23 April brought in many raptors and passerines, and many record early dates were set on these days. Notable warbler totals included 18 species on 28 Apr at Shimek S.F. (RIC) and 20 species on 16 May in NC Iowa (THK). House Finches continue to increase exponentially and are now found statewide.

Generally, good weather fronts were scarce this spring and few migrants were concentrated in Iowa. The cool weather in early May delayed leafout and made it easier to locate passerines this year than in the past few years. Overall, it was an average spring.

### Unusual Sightings

Despite the dry spring, some excellent birds were found. Accidental species reported included Red-throated Loon, Tricolored Heron, Black Rail, Slaty-backed Gull, Mountain Bluebird, and Baird's Sparrow. Three of these (Tricolored Heron, Slaty-backed Gull, and Baird's Sparrow) would be firsts for Iowa. Other good birds included Red-necked Grebe, Black Scoter, Surf Scoter, Ferruginous Hawk, Yellow Rail, Glaucous Gull, Common Barn-Owl, Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, Varied Thrush, Prairie Warbler, Sharp-tailed Sparrow, and Pine Grosbeak. The only exotic reported was an Egyptian Goose at Cardinal M. (TAS). In the mixed blood category were a Mallard X Northern Shoveler hybrid photographed in NW Iowa (MMB) and a "Brewster's" Warbler in central Iowa.

\*\*\*\*\*SP1 file: Loons--Cranes\*\*\*\*\*  
Red-throated Loon: A report will be referred to the Records Committee.  
Common Loon: A bit early were 1 on 24-25 Mar at Lake Anita(AJ,DT) and 1 on 25 Mar at Big Creek(SJD,BE). High count was 5 on 8 Apr at Rathbun Res. (RLC). The last of several late May reports was 1 on 30 May at Pine L. (MPr).  
Horned Grebe: 1 was early on 18 Mar at Rathbun Res. (RLC). 5 on 14 Apr at Storm L. (DBi) were the most reported.  
Red-necked Grebe: One of two reports gave details; 1 on 14 Apr at Storm L. (\*DBi).  
Eared Grebe: 1 was early on 18-19 Mar at Big Creek(SJD). Many were reported in April and May with a high count of 9 on 25 May s. of Cherokee(MMB).  
Western Grebe: 2 on 18 Apr at Silver L. (MMB), 3 on 21 Apr at Storm L. (DBi), 1 on 21 Apr at DeSoto NWR(DT), and 1 on 21,23 Apr at Smith L., Kossuth Co. (MCK) constituted an above-normal number of reports of this rare spring migrant.  
American White Pelican: The first was 1 on 22 Mar at Lake Manawa(BPa). Peaks were all on 8 Apr; 665 at Rathbun Res. (RLC), 480 at Saylorville Res. (SJD,LPH), and 208 at Lake Manawa(BPa,LPa). The only report from eastern Iowa was 35 on 11 Apr at Montrose(RIC). A flock of 85 on 24 May in Dallas Co. (RKM) was late for such a large number.  
Double-crested Cormorant: The first were 2 on 24 Mar at Saylorville Res. (SJD). Peak was 665 on 20 Apr at Saylorville Res. (SJD).  
American Bittern: The first was 1 on 15 Apr at Saylorville Res. (RKM,MPr). 6 on 12 May at Cone M. (THK, et al.) were the most reported. Another 11 reports of 1-3 birds are encouraging for this uncommon species.  
Least Bittern: 2 were somewhat early on 7 May at Cone M. (THK,RIC).  
Great Blue Heron: The colony at Saylorville Res. had an estimated 25 active nests this spring(RIC).  
Great Egret: 1 was early on 24 Mar at Saylorville Res. (SJD,BE) [3rd earliest]. Also early was 1 on 25 Mar at Red Rock Res. (AJ). High counts were on 16 Apr; 22 at Saylorville Res. (PA,RA) and 17 at Union Sl. NWR (MCK).  
Snowy Egret: The only report was 2 on 18 Apr at Lake Manawa(BPa, details).  
Little Blue Heron: 1 on 13 Apr at Big Creek(AJ), 2 ad. on 3 May below Saylorville Dam(MPr,BPr) and an ad. and a calico there on 4 May(SJD), and 1 on 21 May at Saylorville Res. (DT) were the only reports.  
Tricolored Heron: A report will be referred to the Records Committee.  
Cattle Egret: 1 on 25 Apr s. of Pacific Jct. (DLR), 4 on 27 Apr at Myre Sl. (Ron Munkel fide JLH), 1 on 8 May at Big Creek(RKM), 1 on 14 May at Gull Point S.P. (JJ), and 1 on 17 May at Rush L., Palo Alto Co. (MMB) were the only reports received.  
Green-backed Heron: Singles on 19 Apr at Ames(D. DeGeus fide SJD) and Union Sl. NWR(MCK) were a bit early.  
Black-crowned Night-Heron: Widely reported after mid-Apr with a high count of 13 on 29 Apr at Riverton A. (SJD,LPH).  
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: 9 reports this spring, all of single birds. 1 on 6 May in NW Palo Alto Co. (Phil Delphey and Lisa Hemesath fide JJD) was outside this species' normal range in Iowa.  
Tundra Swan: 4 of the birds wintering n. of LeClaire were last seen on 1 Mar(PCF). The only other reports were 150 on 24 Mar n. of Lansing(MJH), 2 on 24-27 Mar at Lakin Sl. (R. Sedlacek fide SJD,SJD,RKM), 1 on 26 Mar at Ames(M. Meetz fide SJD), and 2 late on 1

May at Lakin Sl. (R. Sedlacek fide SJD).

Mute Swan: 2 on 11 Mar at IPL Ponds were thought to have come from the Glenwood City Park (TB, BLW).

Greater White-fronted Goose: Widely reported from central and eastern Iowa. 850 on 16 Mar at Riverton A. (SJD, LPH) were the most reported. The last were 5 on 24 May at Spirit L. (J. Synhorst fide DCH).

Snow Goose: The high count was 20,000 on 16 Mar at Riverton A. (SJD, LPH). Away from western Iowa, 800 on 26 Mar at Hendrickson M. (MPR, BPr) was the most reported.

Ross' Goose: Few reports this spring; 1 on 9 Mar (SJD, JJD, LPH) and 2 on 19 Apr (AJ) at Bays Branch, 1 on 25 Mar and 2 on 13 Apr at Saylorville Res. (SJD), and 2 on 30 Mar at Big Creek (SJD) were the only reports away from western Iowa.

Canada Goose: High counts were 4100 on 10 Mar at Red Rock Res. (SJD), 1540 on 11 Mar at Rathbun Res. (RLC), and 3000 on 15 Mar at Clear L. (JLH). An albino individual was at Saylorville Res. on 25 Mar (SJD, BE).

American Black Duck: 4 reports from central and southwest Iowa, all in March and April.

Northern Pintail: 3000 on 16 Mar at Riverton A. (SJD, LPH) was impressive. Few others were reported. A nest was at Ventura M. on 14 May (JLH).

Blue-winged Teal: The first was 1 on 10 Mar below Red Rock Res. dam (SJD).

Cinnamon Teal: A banner spring for this species with 4 males reported; 1 on 6 Apr-8 May at Cone M. (PCP, m.ob.), 1 on 13-20 Apr at Big Creek (AJ, m.ob.), 1 on 29 Apr at Riverton A. (SJD, LPH), and 1 on 19-21 May at Lylah's M. (MJH, details) [record latest]. Females were reported with some of these, but no convincing details were given.

Canvasback: High counts were 4000 on 12 Mar at Pool 19 (RIC) and 200 on 21 Apr at Lake Manawa (BPa, LPa).

Greater Scaup: Many reports were received, all with details. First was 1 on 8 Mar at Red Rock Res. (AJ). Peak was 100 on 19 Mar at Pool 13 (FCP), and last was 1 female on 19 May at New L. (SJD) [2nd latest].

Lesser Scaup: High count was 4000 on 12 Mar at Pool 19 (RIC).

Oldsquaw: 2 on 11-16 Mar at IPL Ponds (BPa, LPa, m.ob.), 1 on 15 Mar at Saylorville Res. (SJD), and 1 on 30 Apr, 1 May at Badger Creek L. (PA, m.ob.) [2nd latest].

Black Scoter: 1 male on 8-9 Apr at Saylorville Res. (BE, \*ASF, \*AJ, m.ob., ph.) and 1 imm. male on 11-19 May at IPL Ponds (SJD, m.ob., details) are only the 2nd and 3rd spring reports for Iowa.

Surf Scoter: The only report was 1 imm. male on 11-19 May at IPL Ponds (SJD, m.ob., details) [ties 2nd latest].

White-winged Scoter: The only report was 1 imm. male and 1 female on 13 Apr-1 May at Big Creek (SJD, m.ob., details) [3rd latest].

Common Goldeneye: Last was 1 on 29 Apr at Big Creek (SJD, LPH).

Bufflehead: 4 on 13 May at IPL Ponds (BPa, LPa) were the last.

Hooded Merganser: 57 on 19 Mar at Saylorville Res. (SJD) were the most reported. A brood was at Otter Creek M. on 21 May (MPR, BPr).

Common Merganser: Peak was 1800 on 18 Mar at Saylorville Res. (SJD). A male lingered through the end of the period at Lakin Sl. (RKM, SJD) [record latest].

Red-breasted Merganser: High counts were 193 on 2 Apr at Saylorville Res. (SJD, LPH) and 267 on 11 Apr at Pool 19 (RIC). The last of several late May reports was 1 on 28 May at Ventura M. (SJD).

Turkey Vulture: First were 1 on 10 Mar near Runnells(SJD) and 1 on 11 Mar in Lee Co.(RIC). Nests were found in Allamakee Co.(DJC), in Guthrie Co.(R. Sedlacek fide SJD), and near Sidney(Carl Priebe fide BLW).

Osprey: First was 1 on 1 Apr in Lee Co.(RIC). High count was 3 on 23 Apr at Big Creek(ASF).

Bald Eagle: Peaks were 141(63a,78i) on 10 Mar at Red Rock Res.(SJD), 82(36a,46i) on 19 Mar at Saylorville Res.(SJD), and 167(92a,75i) on 21 Mar at Lake Manawa(BPa). There were 7 active nests in Iowa this spring(LSJ,DH).

Northern Harrier: Up to 6 lingered until 10 May at Coralville Res.(THK,JLF).

Sharp-shinned Hawk: Peak was 4 on 9 May at Union Sl.NWR(MCK).

Cooper's Hawk: At least 9 nests were found in Iowa this spring(DJC).

Northern Goshawk: 1 ad. on 25 Mar at Saylorville Res.(SJD,BE) was the only report.

Red-shouldered Hawk: 8 nests were found in Iowa this spring(LSJ,DH).

Broad-winged Hawk: 1 on 15 Apr at Fairfield(DCP) was a bit early. A good flight occurred across the state on 22-24 Apr with high counts of 170 on 23 Apr at Ames(PWM) and 200 on 24 Apr at Algona(MCK).

Swainson's Hawk: There were many reports of 1-2 birds including nests in Osceola Co.(DBi, 12th straight year at this location) and at George Wyth S.P.(THK, et al.).

Red-tailed Hawk: A Krider's form was reported on 14 Apr in Page Co.(BLW, details).

Ferruginous Hawk: A report will be referred to the Records Committee.

Golden Eagle: 1 imm. on 14 Apr w. of Union(\*MPr) was the only report.

American Kestrel: High counts were 55 on 26 Mar in central Iowa(SJD,LPH), 27 on 31 Mar in Hardin/Marshall Co.'s(MPr), and 22 on 7 Apr in NC Iowa(JLW,CN).

Merlin: 8 reports of single birds, most in late April.

Peregrine Falcon: All reports; 1 on 22 Apr at Coralville Res.(JLF) and singles on 2,9 May at Union Sl. NWR(MCK). No details were provided for a late report.

Prairie Falcon: The bird e. of Reinbeck was last reported on 1 Mar(\*AJ,m.ob.).

Gray Partridge: This species continues to spread south with reports from Keokuk, Mills, and Warren counties.

Yellow Rail: 1 on 3 May at Ventura M.(JLH,details), 1 on 7 May at Cone M.(\*JLF), and 1 on 20 May at Sweet M.(RKM,details).

Black Rail: A report will be referred to the Records Committee.

King Rail: Up to 2 from 29 Apr-12 May at Cone M.(PCP,m.ob.), 1 on 6,8 May at Snake Creek M.(RKM), and 2 on 20 May at Princeton M.(RLC,m.ob.).

Virginia Rail: The first were 2 on 29 Apr at Otter Creek M.(JLF).

Sora: A nest was found on 28 May at the Russ W.A., Winnebago Co.(SJD).

Common Moorhen: First was 1 on 29 Apr at Cone M.(THK). The most were 13 on 28 May at Big Wall L.(SJD). Up to 3 were reported from Jefferson, Polk, Scott, and Winnebago counties.

Sandhill Crane: All reports; 1 imm. on 10 Mar at Saylorville Res.(SJD), 1 on 31 Mar at Willow Sl.(Carl Priebe fide BLW), 3 on 2 Apr n. of Des Moines(Larry Igl fide JJD), 5 or 6 on 22 Apr near New Albin(Kay Neumann fide JJD), 1 on 22 Apr at Otter Creek M.(JLF), 3 on 29 Apr s. of Hastings(RKM), 1 on 29 Apr at Riverton A.(RKM), 1 on 17 May at Ventura M.(JLH), and 1 on 21 May in Scott Co.(\*RJH,m.ob.).

\*\*\*\*\*SP2 file: Plovers--Woodpeckers\*\*\*\*\*  
Black-bellied Plover: Few reports. First were 2 on 5 May near Plymouth(JLW,CN). The most were 13 on 27 May in Dallas Co.(RKM).  
Lesser Golden-Plover: 1 was early on 26 Mar at Saylorville Res.(SJD,LPH). High counts were 200 on 16 May in NC Iowa(THK) and 100 on 17 May at Rush L., Osceola Co.(MMB).  
Semipalmated Plover: The first were 2 on 9 Apr w. of Pacific Jct.(DLR)[2nd earliest]. The most were 8 on 18 May at Grover L.(DCH).  
Piping Plover: In w. Iowa, the first was 1 at IPL Ponds on 3 May(BPa,LPa), peak was 4 there on 11 May(SJD), and 2 nests were found on 19 May(SJD). The only other w. Iowa reports were 1-2 on 6,9 May near Bartlett(DLR,RR,WRS) and 1 on 11 May at Riverton A.(SJD). In central Iowa, 1 was at Alden, Hardin Co. on 3 May(\*DBi), 1 on 3-8 May at Saylorville Res.(MPr,BPr,m.ob.), and 1 on 4 May at Big Creek(SJD).  
American Avocet: Few reports this spring. First and most were 40 on 18 Apr at Lake Manawa(BPa)[ties 3rd earliest]. Others were 2 on 3 May at Lylah's M.(MJH), 2 on 4 May at Saylorville Res.(SJD,RKM), and 1 on 11,19 May at Riverton A.(SJD,WRS).  
Greater Yellowlegs: First was 1 on 25 Mar at Bays Branch(EuA,EIA). The last was 1 on 28 May in Wright Co.(SJD).  
Lesser Yellowlegs: 1 on 26 Mar at Union Sl.NWR(MCK) was a little early. 800 on 29 Apr at Riverton A.(SJD,LPH) were the most reported. Few other reports were received.  
Solitary Sandpiper: Peak was 66 on 29 Apr at Riverton A.(SJD,LPH). Late was 1 on 26 May at Union Sl.NWR(MCK,details)[2nd latest].  
Willet: Many reports this spring, beginning with 1 on 3 Apr at Little Wall L.(JJD,details)[ties 2nd earliest]. Most reports were from the last week in April with high counts of 15 on 21 Apr at Saylorville Res.(ASF), 25 on 24 Apr at Union Grove L.(MPr,BPr), and 16 on 26 Apr at Big Creek(SJD). 1 was a bit late on 27 May in Dallas Co.(RKM).  
Spotted Sandpiper: 1 was early on 21 Apr at Pine L.(MPr).  
Upland Sandpiper: High count was 8 on 15 May in NE Madison Co.(EuA,EIA). Others were reported from Cerro Gordo, Clay, Emmet, Iowa, Lucas, and Mills counties.  
Hudsonian Godwit: First was 1 on 13 Apr in Palo Alto Co.(T. LaGrange fide JLH)[3rd earliest]. High count was 41 on 19 May at Riverton A.(SJD,WRS). Most other reports were of fewer than 10 birds.  
Marbled Godwit: First were 2 on 7 Apr at Saylorville Res.(SJD,details)[3rd earliest], 1 on 9 Apr w. of Pacific Jct.(DLR,no details), and 2 on 10 Apr e. of Union(MPr,details). Last were 2 on 15 May at Dunbar Sl.(JSi,AJ). Eastern Iowa reports were 4 on 6 May in Lee Co.(THK,RIC,details) and 2 on 8 May NE of Muscatine(PCP,details).  
Ruddy Turnstone: 1 on 13 May at Little Wall L.(MPr,BPr), 1 on 14 May at Saylorville Res.(PA,RA,m.ob.), 2 on 18 May at Union Sl. NWR(MCK), 1 on 19 May at Swan L.(THK), 1 on 19 May at Riverton A.(SJD,WRS), 2 on 26 May at IPL Ponds(BPa,LPa), and 20 on 28 May at Greenfield L.(B. Ballard fide SJD).  
Sanderling: Very few reports this spring. First was 1 on 29 Apr at Saylorville Res.(SJD,LPH). High count was 4 on 26 May at Saylorville Res.(SJD,BE).  
Semipalmated Sandpiper: 1 was early on 16,20 Apr at Big Creek(SJD,LPH).  
Western Sandpiper: Reports with details were 3 on 4 May below Saylorville Dam(SJD,RKM) and 3 on 28 May at Clear L.(SJD,JLH).  
White-rumped Sandpiper: Early were 20 on 29 Apr at Riverton A.(SJD,LPH,details)[3rd earliest]. High count was 2000 on 19 May at

Riverton A. (SJD,WRS).

Baird's Sandpiper: 2 were early on 16 Mar at Riverton A. (SJD,LPH,details) [2nd earliest]. High count was 40 on 29 Apr at Riverton A. (SJD,LPH). Last were 2 on 20 May at Saylorville Res. (ASF).  
Pectoral Sandpiper: High count was 700 on 29 Apr at Riverton A. (SJD,LPH).

Dunlin: 21 on 18 May at Union Sl. NWR (MCK) was the most reported.  
Stilt Sandpiper: High counts were 28 on 11 May at Riverton A. (SJD) and 18 on 18 May at Union Sl. NWR (MCK).

Short-billed Dowitcher: 1 was early on 29 Apr at Riverton A. (SJD,LPH,details). Many were reported in the first half of May with a high count of 31 on 19 May at Riverton A. (SJD,WRS). Most reports gave details.

Long-billed Dowitcher: First was 1 on 16 Apr n. of Clear L. (JLW,CN). High count was 27 on 29 Apr at Riverton A. (SJD,LPH). Last was 1 on 6 May below Saylorville Dam (PA,RP,m.ob.). Again, most reports gave details.

Common Snipe: 75 on 29 Apr at Riverton A. (SJD,LPH) and 1 on 29 May at Zirbel Sl. (JLW) were the only reports.

Wilson's Phalarope: A good year for this species with high counts of 200 on 29 Apr at Riverton A. (SJD,LPH) and 100 on 5 May s. of Cherokee (MMB). A pair was courting on 21 May at Goose L, Clinton Co. (JJD). Last was 1 on 27 May at Swan L. (JLF).

Red-necked Phalarope: The only report was 1 on 7 May at Runnell's W.A. (JSi).

Franklin's Gull: First was 1 on 21 Mar at Lake Manawa (BPa). Peak was 130 on 4 May at Saylorville Res. (SJD).

Bonaparte's Gull: The first migrants appeared on 8-9 Apr statewide. High counts were 45 on 18 Apr at Lake Manawa (BPa) and 59 on 20 Apr at Big Creek (SJD,LPH). An imm. was late at Saylorville Res. on 26 May (SJD,BE) [2nd latest].

Ring-billed Gull: The largest concentrations were 5000 on 12 Mar at Pool 19 (RIC), 3000 on 22 Mar at Lake Manawa (TB), and 4000 on 25-31 Mar at Saylorville Res. (SJD).

Herring Gull: Late were 1 on 15 May at Sweet M. (THK,FLM,RT) and 1 on 20 May at Saylorville Res. (ASF).

Glaucous Gull: 1 on 2 Mar at Davenport (PCP), 1 on 11 Mar at Red Rock Res. (AJ), 1 1st-winter bird on 18 Mar at Saylorville Res. (SJD), and 1 1st-winter bird on 25 Mar at IPL Ponds (BLW) constituted an above normal number of reports for spring.

Slaty-backed Gull: A report will be referred to the Records Committee.

Caspian Tern: No details were given for an early report. The first was 1 on 23 Apr at Rathbun Res. (SJD). An impressive 280 on 8 May at Clear L. (JLH,DBi) are the most ever reported for spring. Other high counts were 56 on 11 May at Saylorville Res. (SJD), 20 on 13 May at IPL Ponds (BPa,LPa), and 40 on 21 May near Credit I. (PCP).

Common Tern: The first were 2 on 3-4 May below Saylorville dam (MPr,BPr,m.ob.). High count was 8 on 10 May at Saylorville Res. (SJD). Last was 1 on 29 May at Little Wall L. (SJD). All reports gave details.

Forster's Tern: The first were 5 on 15 Apr in Appanoose Co. (RLC). 100 on 6 May at Keokuk (THK,RIC) were the most reported. 25 ad. and 5 nests were at Ventura M. on 22 May (JLH).

Least Tern: Up to 4 were reported at IPL Ponds after 7 May (DLR,RR,m.ob.).

Black Tern: 1 was early on 29 Apr at Montrose (RIC) [ties 2nd earliest].

High counts were 100 on 14 May at Union Sl. NWR(MCK), 200 on 26 May at Saylorville Res.(SJD,BE), and 350 on 28 May at Ventura M.(SJD).

Black-billed Cuckoo: 1 was very early on 23 Apr in Warren Co. (\*AJ)[record earliest]. 1 was also early on 8 May at Grammar Grove(MPr,BPr,PH).

Common Barn-Owl: The only report was 1 on 13 Mar w. of Tabor(WRS,details).

Snowy Owl: 1 on 20 Mar near Britt(Lowell Washburn fide JLH) was the only report.

Long-eared Owl: Somewhat late were 1 on 16 Apr in Des Moines(RIC,FLM) and 1 through 20 Apr at Coralville Res(JLF).

Short-eared Owl: High counts were 6 on 12 Mar at Bays Branch(SJD,ASF) and up to 6 through 12 May at Coralville Res.(JLF,THK).

Northern Saw-whet Owl: 10 birds were reported with the last on 1 Apr at Coralville Res.(JLF).

Common Nighthawk: The first were 4 on 25 Apr in Des Moines(DT)[2nd earliest].

Chuck-will's-widow: 2 on 11 May n. of Waubonsie S.P.(SJD) was the only report.

Whip-poor-will: 1 was a bit early on 21 Apr at Lacey-Keosauqua S.P.(DCP). Few others were reported.

Chimney Swift: Very early were 2 on 8 Apr at Pella(Tom Rosburg fide SJD)[record earliest].

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: Early was 1 on 30 Apr n. of Iowa City(JLF).

Pileated Woodpecker: up to 2 in April and May in the Des Moines area(PA,RA,m.ob.), 1 on 22 Apr at Iowa River Woods, Marshall Co.(MPr,BPr), 1 on 23 Apr in Marshalltown(Betty Savage fide MPr), 1 on 13,19 May at Grammar Grove(MPr,BPr), and a pair and a nest on 28 May at Idlewild W.A., Floyd Co.(JLW) were all away from this species usual haunts in Iowa.

\*\*\*\*\*SP3 file: Flycatchers--Starling\*\*\*\*\*  
Olive-sided Flycatcher: 1 was early on 6 May at Ledges S.P. (MPr, BPr). High count was 3 on 24 May in Boone/Webster counties (MPr, BPr).  
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: Many were reported in late May with high counts of 3 on 24 May at Holst S.F. (MPr, BPr) and 5 on 29 May in Winnebago Co. (SJD).  
Acadian Flycatcher: Several reports from eastern and central Iowa, but the most reported was 4 on 29 May at Waubonsie S.P. (WRS).  
Alder Flycatcher: A banner year for this species with a large movement through central Iowa noted on 25-27 May (BPr, SJD). High counts were 8 on 21 May at George Wyth S.P. (RKM), 3 on 25 May at Waubonsie S.P. (TB, BPa), 14 on 26 May at Squirrel Hollow Park, Greene Co. (SJD), and 12 on 27 May at Backbone S.P. (ASF).  
Least Flycatcher: Early were 1 on 27 Apr at Ledges S.P. (SJD) [ties 2nd earliest], 1 on 28 Apr at Ames (ASF), and 1 on 29 Apr at Iowa City (THK). Peak was 13 on 8 May at Ames (ASF).  
Eastern Phoebe: The first was 1 on 24 Mar at Fairfield (DCP).  
Great Crested Flycatcher: 1 was very early on 21 Apr in Hardin Co. (DJC, details) [record earliest]. Also early were 1 on 27 Apr in Shimek S.F. (RIC) and 2 on 29 Apr at Ledges S.P. (SJD, LPH).  
Western Kingbird: In western Iowa, the first were 1 on 11 May at IPL Ponds (SJD) and 2 on 12 May at Sioux City (JJ). High count was 7 on 19 May in Fremont Co. (SJD). Away from western Iowa, 1 on 15 May in Greene Co. (\*JSi, m.ob.) and 2 on 27 May e. of Des Moines (JLF) were more unusual.  
Eastern Kingbird: First was 1 on 24 Apr at Fairfield (DCP).  
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher: The only report was 1 on 25 Apr at Kettleson Hogsback W.A. (T. Waltz, J. Drahota, G. Wee fide DCH).  
Purple Martin: 1 was early on 23 Mar at Pony Creek, Mills Co. (DLR, RR) [ties 2nd earliest].  
Tree Swallow: 2 were early on 18 Mar at Princeton M. (PCP) [ties 2nd earliest].  
Red-breasted Nuthatch: The only reports were 1 on 6 May at Lake Hendrick's, Howard Co. (MJH) and 1 on 9 May at Huron I. (FCP).  
Brown Creeper: 2 on 4, 6 May in Des Moines (PA, RA), 3 territorial birds on 8 May at Credit I. (PCP), 5 territorial birds on 9 May at Huron I. (PCP), and 1 on 11 May s. of Bellevue (PCP) are more May reports than usual and could indicate nesting.  
Carolina Wren: This species continues to recover from low numbers in the early 1980's. 1-4 birds were reported from 15 locations, most in central and eastern Iowa.  
Winter Wren: 5 were reported between 19 Mar and 26 Apr, about typical for spring.  
Marsh Wren: 1 was very early on 15 Apr at the Polk City W.A. (RKM, MPr, details) [record earliest].  
Golden-crowned Kinglet: 3 were somewhat late on 28 Apr at Algona (MCK).  
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: High count was 42 on 15 Apr at Dolliver S.P. (ASF). 1 was late on 27 May in Warren Co. (AJ) [2nd latest].  
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: 1 was a bit early on 15 Apr at Dolliver S.P. (ASF).  
Mountain Bluebird: Up to 8 on 7-24 Mar at Lake Anita S.P. (\*RKM, \*SJD, \*AJ, \*JLF) probably wintered in the area and may have been a family group. Another male was reported on 19 Mar n. of Emmetsburg, Palo Alto Co. (\*ET). These are the 6th and 7th state records.  
Veery: 8 on 27 May at Backbone S.P. (ASF) were the most reported.

Gray-cheeked Thrush: 1 was early on 30 Apr at Ames (ASF). Peak was 3 on 8 May in Appanoose Co. (RLC). Several were reported in early May.

Swainson's Thrush: Early were 1 on 24 Apr at Davenport (PCP), 1 on 26 Apr at Ames (ASF), and 1 on 27 Apr at Sioux Center (JV). Peaks were rather late this year; 9 on 27 May at Ames (PWM) and 9 on 29 May near Adel (RIC).

Hermit Thrush: 1 on 26 Mar at Algona (MCK) [ties record earliest] was early. Peak was 8 on 19 Apr at Ames (SJD).

Wood Thrush: 1 was early on 23 Apr at Happy Hollow, Dallas Co. (RKM) [2nd earliest]. Also early was 1 on 27 Apr at Shimek S.F. (RIC).

American Robin: A partially albino individual was reported from Glenwood in Apr-May (DLR).

Varied Thrush: Wintering birds lingered through 20 Mar at Waukon (TR) and 21 Apr in Des Moines (J. Enyart fide JLF) [2nd latest].

Gray Catbird: 1 on 2 Apr at Iowa City (\*JH) may have been wintering. Early were 2 on 25 Apr at Iowa City (JLF).

Northern Mockingbird: 1-3 were reported from 12 locations, all in the southern half of the state. The northernmost report was 1 on 10 Apr, 1 May in Boone Co. (SRL).

Brown Thrasher: 1 on 26 Mar at Fairfield (DCP) could have been an early migrant or a wintering bird.

Water Pipit: Few reports. The first were 2 on 16 Mar at Riverton A. (SJD, LPH) and 24 were there on 29 Apr (SJD, LPH). Other reports were 4 on 1 Apr at Coralville Res. (JLF), 6 on 6 Apr w. of Conesville (PCP), and 1 on 21 Apr at Lacey-Keosauqua S.P. (DCP).

Northern Shrike: 5 were reported with details, the last on 24 Mar n. of Cardinal M. (MJH).

\*\*\*\*\*SP4 file: Vireo--House Sparrow\*\*\*\*\*  
White-eyed Vireo: 1-2 birds were reported from 7 locations, beginning with 1 on 28 Apr at Shimek S.F. (RIC).  
Bell's Vireo: The first was 1 on 10 May at Fairfield (DCP).  
Solitary Vireo: The first was 1 on 22 Apr in Warren Co. (AJ) [record earliest]. Also early was 1 on 26 Apr at Ames (PH). Peak was 12 on 9 May at Ames (ASF).  
Yellow-throated Vireo: Early were 1 on 22 Apr at Lacey-Keosauqua S.P. (DCP) [ties record earliest], 1 on 23 Apr near Vincennes, Lee Co. (SJD) [3rd earliest], and 1 on 24 Apr at Algona (MCK).  
Warbling Vireo: The first was 1 on 23 Apr in SW Lee Co. (SJD) [ties record earliest].  
Red-eyed Vireo: Early were 1 on 27 Apr at Ledges S.P. (SJD) [ties 2nd earliest], 1 on 29 Apr at Shimek S.F. (RIC), 1 on 29 Apr at Lacey-Keosauqua S.P. (DCP), and 1 on 30 Apr w. of Cone M. (THK).  
Blue-winged Warbler: High count was 12 on 28 Apr at Shimek S.F. (RIC). Singles at Algona on 10 May (MCK) and Cherokee Co. Park on 20 May (DBi) were outside this species normal range in Iowa.  
Golden-winged Warbler: Many were reported this spring from across the state. The first were 2 on 28 Apr at Ames (ASF) and 2 on 28 Apr at Shimek S.F. (RIC) [record earliest]. Peak was 4 on 9, 10 May at Ames (ASF, SJD). The last was 1 on 27 May near Dorchester (MJH) [2nd latest].  
"Brewster's" Warbler: 1 was reported on 11 May in Warren Co. (\*AJ).  
Tennessee Warbler: The first was 1 on 23 Apr in Lee Co. (SJD) [3rd earliest].  
Orange-crowned Warbler: Many reports from late April. The first was 1 on 21 Apr at Pony Creek, Mills Co. (DLR).  
Nashville Warbler: The first were 1 on 24 Apr at A.A. Call S.P. (MCK) and 1 on 24 Apr at Rolling Thunder Prairie, Warren Co. (JSi). Peak was 21 on 9 May at Ames (ASF).  
Yellow Warbler: Early were singles on 26 Apr at Saylorville Res. and Big Creek (SJD) [ties 3rd earliest].  
Chestnut-sided Warbler: A pair on 24 May in Holst S.F. (MPr, BPr) acted like they were nesting.  
Cape May Warbler: An unstated number on 5 May at Wexford (FL) and 2 on 14 May at Holst S.F. (RKM) were the only reports.  
Black-throated Blue Warbler: A male was reported on 10 May at Lake Ahquabi S.P. (AJ).  
Yellow-rumped Warbler: Peak was 75 on 6 May at Ames (PWM).  
Black-throated Green Warbler: Peak was 6 on 10 May at Grammar Grove (MPr, BPr).  
Blackburnian Warbler: The first were 1 on 28 Apr at Ames (G. Brown fide SJD), 1 on 29 Apr at Ledges S.P. (SJD, PH), and 1 on 30 Apr w. of Cone M. (THK). Peak was 7 on 13 May at Ames (PWM).  
Yellow-throated Warbler: Birds were reported from the usual locations along the Des Moines R. in southeast and central Iowa. At least 4 males were at Ledges S.P. in May (SJD).  
Pine Warbler: Reports with details included singles on 25 Apr [ties 2nd earliest] and 8 May at Wildcat Den S.P. (PCP, BLB, DWM) and 1 on 5 May in NW Scott Co. (PCP).  
Prairie Warbler: The only report was 1 male on 30 May in Yellow River S.F. (SJD, details).  
Palm Warbler: Singles on 21 Apr [ties 3rd earliest] were at Lacey-Keosauqua S.P. (DCP, details) and Jester Park (AJ). High count was 5 on 4 May at A.A. Call S.P. (MCK).

Bay-breasted Warbler: The first were seen on 28 Apr [2nd earliest]; 1 at Ames (G. Brown fide SJD) and 2 at Shimek S.F. (RIC). Few others were reported.

Blackpoll Warbler: The peak was 4 on 27 May at Backbone S.P. (ASF). Last was 1 on 29 May at Harmon L. (SJD, JLH).

Black-and-white Warbler: The first was 1 on 22 Apr at Jester Park (SJD).

Prothonotary Warbler: Many were reported, beginning with 1 on 29 Apr w. of Cone M. (THK). High count was 8 on 31 May s. of Guttenberg (SJD). More unusual were 3 on 6 May at Riverton A. (DLR, RR), 1 on 24 May at Marble Beach, Dickinson Co. (MMB), a pair and a nest on 28 May along the Little Sioux R. in O'Brien Co. (HW), and 1 on 29 May at Harmon L. (SJD, JLH).

Worm-eating Warbler: All reports; 2 on 28 Apr (RIC) and 1 on 19 May (JLF) at Shimek S.F., 1 on 12 May at Lacey-Keosauqua S.P. (DCP), 1 on 15 May at Ledges S.P. (JSi, AJ), and 1 on 20 May at Sweet M. was a "first at this location" (RKM).

Northern Waterthrush: The first was 1 on 24 Apr at Sioux Center (JV).

Kentucky Warbler: Many were reported, beginning with 2 on 28 Apr at Shimek S.F. (RIC). Most were in southeast and central Iowa, but 1 on 6 May s. of Thurman (DLR, RR), 1 on 19 May at Hacklebarney Woods, Montgomery Co. (TB, BLW), and 1 on 29 May at Waubonsie S.P. (WRS) were in SW Iowa.

Connecticut Warbler: Only one of three reports gave details; 1 on 20 May at Ledges S.P. (ASF).

Mourning Warbler: The first was 1 on 7 May at Ames (ASF) [ties 3rd earliest]. High count was 9 on 15 May at Ledges S.P. (JSi, AJ).

Common Yellowthroat: The first was 1 on 26 Apr at Fairfield (DCP).

Hooded Warbler: The only report was 1 on 30 May at Yellow River S.F. (SJD).

Wilson's Warbler: Singles on 27 May in Warren Co. (AJ) and 29 May at Harmon L. (SJD, JLH) [ties 3rd latest] were a bit late.

Canada Warbler: Many were reported after 9 May with a peak of 3 on 22 May at Ames (ASF).

Yellow-breasted Chat: Three reports; 1 on 28 Apr at Shimek S.F. (RIC) [record earliest], 1 on 12 May at Cone M. was singing at night (THK, CJB, FLM), and 1 on 19 May near Perry (RKM).

Summer Tanager: All reports; 1 on 4, 5 May at Mason City (\*CN, JLW), 1 on 6 May at Brenton Sl. (PA, RA), 1 on 14 May at Lacey-Keosauqua S.P. (BP, LPa), and 2 on 29 May at Manti Woods, Fremont Co. (WRS).

Scarlet Tanager: 1 was building a nest on 19 May at Hacklebarney Woods, Montgomery Co. (BLW).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: The first was 1 on 22 Apr at Lacey-Keosauqua S.P. (DCP, details) [2nd earliest].

Blue Grosbeak: The first was 1 on 11 May at Riverton A. (SJD). More unusual was 1 on 21 May in Van Buren Co. (J. Hamilton fide DCP).

Indigo Bunting: The first was 1 on 30 Apr at Jester Park (PA, RA).

Clay-colored Sparrow: Many were reported, most from early May. The first and most were 12 on 27 Apr at Otter Creek M. (JLF). 1 was somewhat late on 19 May at Weise Sl. (PCP).

Baird's Sparrow: A report will be referred to the Records Committee.

Le Conte's Sparrow: 8 on 15 Apr at Coralville Res. (AJ), 1 on 27 Apr at Otter Creek M. (JLF), and 1 on 30 Apr at Cone M. (THK) were the only reports.

Sharp-tailed Sparrow: The only report was 1-2 on 21, 22, 25 May at Snake Creek M. (DT, RKM, SJD, details).

Lincoln's Sparrow: 1 on 26 Mar in West Des Moines(\*ElA)[2nd earliest] was very early.

White-throated Sparrow: 1 was late on 27 May at Centerville Res.(RLC).

White-crowned Sparrow: Most reports were from the first half of May with the last 1 on 14 May at Fairfield(DCP).

Harris' Sparrow: As with the previous species, most reports were from the first half of May. The last was 1 on 19 May in Fremont Co.(SJD).

Dark-eyed Junco: May reports were 1 on 3 May in Warren Co.(AJ), 1 on 9 May at Union Sl. NWR(MCK), and 1 on 14 May in Cass Co.(MP).

Lapland Longspur: 5000 on 17 Mar e. of Ames(SJD) and 3000 in 6 flocks on 19 Mar in w. Sioux Co.(JV) were the most reported.

Smith's Longspur: Up to 300 were reported on 1-7 Apr in the same field as previous years e. of Cone M.(JLF,m.ob.).

Snow Bunting: The only reports were 5 on 4 Mar near Grimes(PA,RA), 6 on 5 Mar in Hamilton Co.(MJH), and 2 on 7 Mar near Burt(MCK).

Yellow-headed Blackbird: The first were 2 on 11 Apr at Union Sl.NWR(MCK).

Rusty Blackbird: 240 on 12 Mar at Union Sl.NWR(MCK) was the most reported.

Brewer's Blackbird: 2 on 18 Mar at Hendrickson M.(LPH,details) and 1 on 26 Mar at Bays Branch(SJD,details) were the only reports.

Great-tailed Grackle: A male on 12 May at Lamoni(\*JDG) and another male on 25 May at Lakin Sl.(SJD,details) were the only reports.

Orchard Oriole: The first was 1 on 27 Apr at Big Creek(B. Ballard fide SJD)[ties 2nd earliest].

Northern Oriole: The first was 1 on 23 Apr at Lacey-Keosauqua S.P.(SJD)[ties 2nd earliest]. Many others were reported in late April.

Pine Grosbeak: A pair on 27-28 Mar at Decorah(\*Delores & Arnold Rohm)[record latest] is an unusual spring record.

Purple Finch: The last was 1 on 8 May near Princeton(PCP).

House Finch: This species was everywhere this spring with reports from 16 counties statewide. Nesting was reported from Cerro Gordo, Kossuth, Story, and Warren counties.

Pine Siskin: The only reports were 1 on 14 Apr, 2 May at Ames(JJD), 1 on 27 Apr n. of Iowa City(JLF), and 1 on 30 Apr at Davenport(PCP).