

Entered

**FIELD REPORTS**

June and July, 1989

**FROM:** Pam and Reid Allen (P & R Allen)  
1601 Pleasant Street  
West Des Moines, IA 50265

**OTHER OBSERVERS:** Eloise & Eugene Armstrong (E & E Arm.)  
Booneville, IA

**SPECIES NO. DATE LOCATION-COMMENTS OBSERVERS**

**Least Bittern** 1 6/11 Eugene Armstrong's Pond, Booneville, Madison Co., Iowa P & R Allen  
E & E Arm.

Jim: Eugene thinks there might have been a nesting pair on his pond this summer. If you need further details, he can supply them.

**Osprey** 1 7/16 Polk City Wildlife Refuge (North of Saylorville Marina) P & R Allen  
E & E Arm.

The bird first flew over us and Eugene spotted it. It then flew over to a large dead tree and sat in the top of it for about 1-1/2 hours. Eventually it took off and flew quite close to us as we watched it. Reid took a couple of slides of the bird.

1 7/30 Lake Red Rock, White-breast area P & R Allen  
E & E Arm.

**Green-winged Teal** 1 6/2 Cone Marsh P & R Allen  
E & E Arm.

**Black-crowned Night Heron** 1 7/15 Union Slough N.W.R. P & R Allen  
1 7/16 Polk City W.R. E & E Arm.

**Common Merganser** 1 6/12 Lakin Slough P & R Allen  
1 6/24 Lakin Slough

**Piping Plover** 2 6/18 IPL Ponds, near I-29 & Bellevue, NE P & R Allen  
E & E Arm.

<b>Least Tern</b>	2	6/18	IPL Ponds, near I-29 & Bellevue, NE	P & R Allen E & E Arm.
<b>Carolina Wren</b>	1	7/31	1601 Pleasant, WDM	Pam Allen
<b>White-eyed Vireo</b>	1	6/3	Shimek Forest-Croton	P & R Allen E & E Arm.
	1	6/4	1601 Pleasant, WDM	Pam Allen
	2	7/27	Shimek Forest-Croton	P & R Allen
<b>Horn-eating Warbler</b>	1	7/27	Shimek Forest-Croton	P & R Allen
<b>Great-tailed Grackle</b>	1	6/12	Lakin Slough	P & R Allen
	2	6/24	Lakin Slough	P & R Allen

The bird spotted on 6/12 was a fly-over, although we did have quite a while to study this bird and compare it to the smaller Common Grackles which were also present. The second sighting on 6/24 was a pair and the male was displaying and calling to the female. You cannot mistake the "rattles and squeaks and cackles" of the Great-tailed Grackle when it gets wound up!

<b>Lark Sparrow</b>	1	6/3	West of Shimek Forest-Croton unit, near Turkey Run Access	P & R Allen E & E Arm.
<b>Henslow's Sparrow</b>	1	7/27	Across from H. Shipley residence, in Van Buren County, near Lacey-Keosauqua State Park	P & R Allen

We were surprised to find only one sparrow as Steve had mentioned that he had seen four or five a couple of days earlier in the same pasture. I guess we were really lucky to even see and hear this one bird. We did have to walk out into the field quite a ways in order to locate the bird. It did sit up on a tall piece of grass long enough for us to identify it by sight as well as sound. The call is much quieter "in person" than that on recordings of its call, or perhaps the wind was in a direction which carried the sound away.