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Dear Jim,

Here are some of the interesting bird observations of the 5 weeks at Lakeside:

4 June: Ovenbird. Killed by hitting a window at Lakeside.

5 June Adult Cattle Egret about 2 miles west of the Ruthven Wildlife Station in a flooded field with some Canada Geese. I only saw one individual, but Bruce Ehrman saw several in Palo Alto Colony a few days later.

6,7 June: We had at least one, if not two, Chestnut-sided Warblers on Lakeside campus. Identification of the male was by both sight and repeated singing.

8 June: Two Sedge Wrens defending a territory on Cayler Prairie. No nest was found, but this appeared to be earlier than I remember them holding a territory. In general, I am hearing a lot more Sedge Wrens this year, and I am hearing them earlier.

General impressions are that there is little waterfowl and marsh birds. Only one pair of Black Terns has been seen at Jemmerson and no Forster's Terns anywhere. I've seen 2 Black-crowned night herons and no Great Blues. One person saw a American Bittern fly past the lab. I've not seen and grebes, but a student from another class described what was surely a Pied-billed Grebe nest. Even C. Geese seem less. Redwing and Yellowhead reproduction is down, but there are plenty of Yellowheads at Jemmerson.

Migration is late. A good year for Yellow-billed Cuckoos, however, at Lakeside. Brown Thrashers are not abundant, or quiet. Rose-breasted Grosbeaks are also very quiet this year. Fewer Cliff and Rough-winged Swallows around.

15 Jun Flock of 20 Franklin's Gulls over Grover Lake in the Kettleson Hogsback complex

15 Jun Still L. Scaup hanging around on several lakes

15 Jun Osprey has been hanging around Marble Lake for the last few weeks. No nests seen from the water. I might have seen the bird at a distance, but could not be sure. Doug Harr was the one who told me about it, so I believe that it exists.

15 Jun Immature Double-crested Cormorant on Hottes Lake

16 Jun ~~5~~ Franklin's Gulls in the vicinity of Lake Park in a ~~of~~ reproduction.

16 Jun/5 Franklin's Gulls in the vicinity of Lake Park in a flooded field

16 Jun George Brown and Charley Drews took their class to Cayler Prairie in the evening after supper. There are two bird banders in the class. As they walked through a small kettlehole, they flushed 2 American Woodcock. I believe that this is the first sighting for Cayler Prairie.

21 June Veery--mist netted and banded. I have not heard any songs and I have no indication that this is a territorial bird. So, I have to assume it is a late migrant or a stray bird.

23 June Cattle Egret--about 2 miles west of intersection of Hgwy 9 and 86 in a flooded field. Cattle nearby.

23 June About 4 pairs of Redhead ducks still together. No sign of reproduction.

That's it.

Hope this is of interest.



Neil Bernstein