

Entered

SUMMER REPORT

August 01, 1992

Paul Hertzal (PH)

Jim- Here is some information for you to use as you wish. Nearly all the references to Polk and Dallas Counties refer to the two specific tracts I have been working on for The Army Corps of Engineers. The Polk County tract is compartment #13, also called 'the Barrier Dam Refuge', and consists of land east of the Saylorville marina as far as the cemetery, and, of course, the lake and river emptying in to it. The Dallas county references are to compartment #19, which consists of the DesMoines River and land to its west beginning at the hiway 17 bridge and running about 2 miles north.

I have been so busy this summer that I have done little birding beyond the time spent on these tracts, but there are a few entries regarding nests found here in Story County. I have omitted reporting to you common species seen consistently all summer long but for which I could not confirm breeding (i.e. Chickadee, A. Crow, Indigo Bunting, etc.). Where an actual nest was found I mention it. Otherwise nesting was inferred by observing an adult carrying food or recently fledged young incapable of having travelled very far from a nest.

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| 1. Green-backed Heron      | Seen throughout June & July in Polk and Dallas C.s.  |
| 2. Canada Goose            | 5 broods hatched in May were raised at the Barrier Dam Lake in Polk County   |
| 3. Wood Duck               | Nested in Polk County and one brood was found 6/7 in Dallas County   |
| 4. Wild Turkey             | Individuals seen in Polk County were undoubtedly members of the Polk City gang; One individual was found 7/23 in Dallas County |
| 5. Lesser Yellowlegs       | 3 on 7/10 in Polk County   |
| 6. Solitary Sandpiper      | 5 on 7/10 in Polk County   |
| 7. Semi-palmated Sandpiper | 12 on 7/10 in Polk County  |
| 8. Western Sandpiper       | at least 2 working the same mud flat as #7 & #9  |
| 9. Least Sandpiper         | 19 in Polk County on 7/10  |

→ blot leg  
long bill, down curved  
red on head / Suppior

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|----------------------------|---|
| 10. Short-billed Dowitcher | One on 7/10 in Polk County  |
| 11. Forster's Tern         | One on 7/10 in Polk County  |
| 12. Mourning Dove          | A nest with 2 eggs on 6/10 Polk Cnty  |
| 13. Black-billed Cuckoo    | Seen irregularly throughout June & July in Dallas County  |
| 14. Yellow-billed Cuckoo   | A regular all summer long along the west side of the Barrier Dam Lake in Polk County; also heard regularly in Dallas County throughout the tract. |
| 15. Northern Flicker       | An active nest hole was found 6/7 in Dallas County  |
| 16. Downy Woodpecker       | A family group 7/23 in Polk County  |
| 17. Red-headed Woodpecker  | nested in both Polk and Dallas Counties   |
| 18. Olive-sided Woodpecker | One on 6/7 in Dallas County   |
| 19. Willow Flycatcher      | Seen and heard regularly in June in Polk and Dallas Counties, became scarce in July   |
| 20. E. Kingbird            | An active nest was found 7/10 in Polk County, also bred in Dallas County  |
| 21. E. Pewee               | Nested in Dallas County   |
| 22. Barn Swallow           | Nested in Polk and Dallas Counties  |
| 23. Cliff Swallow          | About 300 at Barrier Dam Lake in Polk County on 7/23. Of course, they nested somewhere nearby, but I could never find where.                      |
| 24. Blue Jay               | nested in Polk County   |
| 25. House Wren             | A nest with 2 eggs on 6/7 in Dallas County  |
| 26. Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher  | nested in Dallas County   |
| 27. Starling               | nests found in Story, Polk and Dallas Counties  |
| 28. E. Bluebird            | Nested in May in Polk County, and a nest was found in Dallas County on 6/7  |
| 29. A. Robin               | nested in Story, Polk and Dallas Counties with the latest nest (with eggs) found 7/23 in Polk County  |
| 30. Veery                  | Heard throughout June in Dallas County  |
| 31. Wood Thrush            | Heard throughout June and July in Dallas Cnty   |

32. Gray Catbird Nested in Polk County, and a nest with 4 eggs found ~~on~~ 6/7 in Dallas County
33. Brown Thrasher Nested in Dallas County
34. Loggerhead Shrike A family group was observed in rural Polk County on 7/23
35. White-eyed Vireo A singing male was discovered in Dallas County on 6/21. I returned and taped him on 6/23. He was still at the same location on 7/23.
36. Yellow-throated Vireo A pair was easy to locate throughout June in Dallas County; Also observed in Polk Cnty
37. Blue-winged Warbler A singing bird was observed 6/7 in Dallas Cnty
38. Yellow Warbler 2 nests found in Polk County, one on 6/10, the other on 6/14. Also observed regularly in Dallas.
39. American Redstart Observed irregularly in June & July in Polk Cnty
40. Ovenbird Easy to find singing birds throughout June and July in Dallas County.
41. Kentucky Warbler A male became very agitated upon close approach 7/14 in Dallas County. I could not find a nest but his behavior was appropriately defensive.
42. Scarlet Tanager A male was observed feeding leisurely in the Dallas County trees on 6/21.
43. Rose-breasted Grosbeak A nest with downy young on 7/14 in Polk County.
44. Northern Cardinal Nested in Polk and Dallas Counties
45. Rufous-sided Towhee Locally regular throughout summer in both Polk and Dallas Counties.
46. Song Sparrow Nested in Polk County.
47. Lark Sparrow One individual seen 7/14 in Dallas County.
48. Red-winged Blackbird Numerous nests poorly concealed in both Polk and Dallas Counties. It is amazing that they are not all destroyed.
49. Common Grackle Nested in Story, Polk and Dallas Counties.
50. Eastern Meadowlark Nested in Polk and Dallas Counties
51. Orchard Oriole A family group was observed 7/23 in Polk County; Also seen twice during the summer in Dallas County

52. House Finch

3 Nests found in June within one block of our home in Ames. Also observed in Polk County.

53. House Sparrow

Nested in Story and Dallas Counties.

- PAUL HENNING