

Field reports-spring 1996
Jim Dinsmore

Horned Grebe-2 at Hallett's Quarry, 7 April (with SJD)

Eared Grebe- 2 at Anderson L., 19 April (with SJD)

Great Egret-two at Anderson Lake, 24 March; 32 at Anderson L., 19 April (with SJD)

Cattle Egret-15 flew over Geode S.P., 17 May; 3 west of LaGrand, Marshall Co., 19 May

Black-crowned Night-Heron-one at Snake Creek Marsh, 21 April (with SJD, JSi)

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron-one imm at Geode S.P., 18 May (with IOU field trip)

Greater White-fronted Goose-10 at Finn Pond, 15 March;
30 at Little Wall Lake, 6 April, William Norris

Ross's Goose-4 at Snake Creek Marsh, 15 March

Cinnamon Teal-male at De Soto NWR, 24 March (Jim Pease fide JJD)

Greater Scaup-two at Little Wall Lake, 26 March

Northern Goshawk-one at Lakin Slough, 21 April (with SJD, JSi)

Broad-winged Hawk-two at Geode S.P., 17 May, appeared territorial

Swainson's Hawk-1 at Bays Branch W.A., 2 west of Jamaica, 1 s. of Dunbar Slough, all on 21 April (with SJD, JSi)

Peregrine Falcon- one at Lakin Slough, 21 April (with SJD, JSi);
one at Harrier Marsh, Boone Co., 2 May (with SJD);
one at Engeldinger Marsh, 3 May

Black-necked Stilt-3 south of Ainsworth, Washington Co., 19 May (m.ob.)

American Avocet-one at Saylorville Res., 21 April (with SJD, JSi); 7 at Kiowa Marsh, Sac Co., 3 May (Larry Kropf fide JJD)

Hudsonian Godwit-4 at Bays Branch, 21 April (with SJD, JSi)
1 at Harrier Marsh, 21 April (with SJD, JSi)

White-rumped Sandpiper-one at Harrier Marsh, 2 May (with SJD)

American Woodcock-one in Ames, 28 March, (Mark Hauser fide JJD)

- Wilson's Phalarope-3 at Bays Branch W.A., 21 April (with SJD, JSi);
- 18 at Gordon's Marsh, Hamilton Co., 27 April;
- ✓ 70 at Harrier Marsh, 2 May (with SJD);
- 7 at Errington Marsh, 3 May;
- ✓ 2 females at Harrier Marsh, 22 May

- Herring Gull-3 at Little Wall Lake, 24 March;
- 2 adults at Hallet's Quarry, Ames on 26 March

- ✓ Black Tern-20 at Harrier Marsh, 22 May

- ✓ Great Gray Owl-one found dead in Des Moines, 1 March, to ISU collection
IJV # 2643

- ✓ Olive-sided Flycatcher-1 at Harrier Marsh, 27 May
- ✓ 1 in Ames, 28 May

- ✓ Carolina Wren-one in Ames, 27 March (JJD, SJD)

- ✓ Winter Wren-1 in Ames, 7 March, (Don Sanderson fide JJD)

- ✓ Marsh Wren-one at Harrier Marsh, 2 May (with SJD)

- ✓ Hermit Thrush-one in Ames, 30 March (reddish tail seen well, Erv Klaas fide JJD)

- ✓ Chestnut-sided Warbler-1 in Ames, 28 May-late

- Magnolia Warbler-2 in Ames, 28 May-late

✓ Yellow-rumped Warbler-one was in Wayne County 3 April (Bill Jackson fide JJD)

✓ Blackburnian Warbler-1 in Ames, 28 May-late

✓ Prairie Warbler-one male at Lake Macbride (by sailboat storage area), 19 May

✓ Blackpoll Warbler-1 in Ames, 28 May-late

✓ Cerulean Warbler-1 in Ames, 11 May (Diane Debinski fide JJD)

✓ Lark Sparrow-nest with eggs at Hawkeye Wildlife Area, Johnson County, 19 May (Neil Bernstein)

✓ Le Conte's Sparrow-2 at Harrier Marsh, 21 April (with SJD, JSi); one at Harrier Marsh, 2 May (with SJD)

Great-tailed Grackle-3 males at Finn Pond and 1 male at Snake Creek Marsh, 15 March (with Jane and Bill Schuster)

9 at Long Pond, 21 April (with SJD, JSi);

2 at Dunbar Slough, 21 April (with SJD, JSi);

2 at Kiowa Marsh, Sac Co., 29 April on (Larry Kropf fide JJD)

Common Redpoll-3 on 2 March, 1 still there on 9 March

Pine Siskin-one was acting territorial in Ames, 15 April (JJD); several still in Ames, 26 April

1 on ISU campus, 24 May-acted territorial

Note: In a conversation with Barry Christiansen, refuge manager at Union Slough NWR, he indicated that the storm on 24-25 March caused considerable mortality of birds in his area. That storm involved only a few inches of snow but high winds (40 mph+) and temp in the 10 degree range, led to mortality of waterfowl that had moved north and then the ponds they occupied refroze as well as small birds. He especially noted lots of dead coots, diving ducks such as Lesser Scaup, and robins. He thought the mortality could easily run into thousands of birds.

Note: There was a big wave of warblers and other migrants that appeared in Ames the night of 15-16 May. I got a number of reports of many birds in yards and birds seemed to be all over. There was also a small kill of birds at a low tower west of Ames (Pat Schlarbaum)

The following are observations by Gordon Brown (Raleigh, NC) and George Brown (Ames). Both are good birders and have reported sightings before. Gordon was visiting this week and the two of them did a lot of birding in the time.

- ✓ Common Loon-2 at Little Wall Lake in basic plumage on 29 May
- ✓ Eared Grebe-2 at Little Wall Lake on 29 May
- ✓ Cattle Egret-3 in Slater, 27 May
- ✓ Yellow-crowned Night-Heron-one at Lakin Slough, 25 May
- ✓ Gadwall-6 at Anderson Lake (Hamilton Co.), 29 May
- ✓ Canvasback-one near Jewell on 29 May
- ✓ Caspian Tern-17 at Bays Branch W.A. on 25 May
- ✓ Yellow-bellied Flycatcher-1 at Ledges S.P. on 29 May
- ✓ Alder Flycatcher-1 at Ledges S.P. on 29 May
- ✓ Philadelphia Vireo-5 at Ledges S.P. on 29 May
- ✓ Red-eyed Vireo-an estimated 300 at Ledges S.P. on 29 May (said they were everywhere)
- ✓ Blackpoll Warbler-estimated 100 at Ledges S.P. on 29 May
- ✓ Hooded Warbler-female at Ledges S.P. on 29 May
- ✓ Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow-1 at Snake Creek Marsh, 25 May

3 June

Tom

The packet of material on the diving ducks arrived (as did the dabbling ducks a few days earlier). I have had to divert attention to finishing up Iowa Bird Life but did take a quick look at them. They looked good although I can see some areas I need to work on.

I had a few last minute addenda to my field reports.

Little Blue Heron-one adult near Trumbull Lake, Clay Co., 31 May)Eric Seabloom fide JJD)

Lesser Yellowlegs-one at Harrier Marsh, 31 May (JJD)

Wilson's Phalarope-male on a nest at Harrier Marsh, 31 May (JJD)

Also just delete my material on Swainson's Hawk. I think I may have contradicted what Steve reported on the birds that he, Sinclair, and I saw. Steve had the best notes on the birds so whatever you use, take from his account. We saw lots of hawks that day and I didn't have good notes on all of them.

Also, I think Steve will be sending you a few sightings he had on his way west earlier this month. I gave you the bulk of his report when I was in Iowa City.

Jm

