

Lake Red Rock + Red Rock Refuge

Lake Red Rock back to permanent pool Sept, wheat planted, Refuge beautiful with birds, Oct 3, flood waters rolled over Refuge + from cliff to cliff 15 miles north. A mess! Finally back to permanent pool in mid Nov.

Goose + duck migration poor!
Shorebirds were unprecedented!
1 Common Loon on Oct 30, first one I'd seen at Red Rock

D. C. Cormorants - first 6 on Sept 9, peaked at 234 thru Oct, all used same roost each night.

Great Blue Herons - began building up in Aug, peaked at 228 + thru Sept. Oct flooding caused most to move out tho 30 + 40 seen in Oct, 2 as late as Nov 10.

Little Blue Herons (rare here) 6 immatures thru Aug to Sept 9.

Great Egrets - greater numbers than ever seen before in Red Rock. Peaked at 105, moved out with Oct flood. Only 2 seen thereafter.

Black-crown Night Herons - 3 a. + 6 i. on Sept 3, 4 a. on Sept 22; 4 a. + 5 i. on Sept 29.

American Bittern peak of 12 in Refuge Sept 26.

Cattle Egret - 1 i. in Refuge Sept 23 to Oct 3. Associated with Great Egrets in roost + fed with cattle at edge of Refuge.

Canada geese - 185 by mid Sept, early, but almost no more after Refuge again flooded Oct 3. (Sept 70 - 4000 in Nov.)

Snow Geese - peaked at 2000 (1970-12000)

Ducks - in general poor migration. Mallards peaked at 20,000 in Nov. (but had 20 to 50,000 in past years)

Turkey Vultures - In the Elk Rock Bluff roost (a summer roost) 50 to 100 thru late Sept to mid Oct. at Red Rock Bluff (also a summer roost) peaked at 160 one evening Oct 6, 53 to 69 each evening thru Oct 15, then 10, + last 8 on Oct 20.

Bald Eagles - 1 i. arrived Sept 28, peaked at 9, 1 first a. on Oct 28. (Previous early date for a. Nov 5, 6)

Marsh Hawks - Only 2 seen all fall, usually are numerous in Refuge when not flooded.

Osprey - only 3 seen on Sept 16

Peregrine - 1 to 3 present for 4 weeks (last 3 wks, Sept, 1st week Oct) 1 was an immature.

- Fall Migration

Gladys Black Pleasantville 50225

Kestrels - peak of 11 seen on Sept 27. Scarce otherwise.

Shorebirds were a delight ←

Semipalmated Plover - 1 to 6 seen during 5 weeks of Sept + Oct.

Piping Plover ^{rare migrant} seen on Sept 8

Amer. Golden Plover - present all of Aug + Sept + 3 weeks of Oct. Highest counts for single days were 56, 75, 91, + 139.

Two still in summer plumage on Sept 9. Usually we have few golden in fall. Black-bellied Plover Present last 3 weeks Aug, all of Sept. + 3 weeks Oct.

High counts for single day ranged from 9, 12, 20, + 35. Ruddy Turnstone (rare migrant) seen last week of Aug and 4 weeks of Sept. High count of 5 on 1 day. (Rare here)

Common Snipe - few seen - 3 weeks of Aug, 4 weeks Sept + 3 weeks Oct, with 1, 5, 7 per day

Birds (uncommon migrant) seen last week Aug, 4 weeks Sept, + 2 weeks Oct. Ranging from 1, 4, 7, 17, 26 per day

Least Sandpipers - Peaked on Oct with 150 seen on Oct 13, last 2 on Oct 26

Dunlin (uncommon migrant here) present only during last 3 weeks of Oct. ranging from 16, 24, 53 per day.

Pawitchers (uncommon migrant) present all of Aug, Sept + 2 weeks Oct. Ranged from 8, 15, 23 per day.

Stilt Sandpiper (rare migrant here) seen all of Aug + Sept + 2 weeks Oct. Ranged from 28, 30, 39, 85, to 150 per single day!!

Western Sandpiper (rare migrant here) Present 1 week of Aug, all of Sept + 1 week Oct. 1 to 5 birds per day.

Ruff-breasted Sandpiper (rare migrant) Present throughout Aug + Sept and the weekend of Oct 13. Counts ranged from 5, 17, 21, 23, 35, + 52 per day. Feeding in short grass field near lake.

Marbled Godwit (rare migrant) Only 1 seen on Sept 22 + 23. Same bird, had a crooked leg.

Sanderlings (rare migrant here) present 3 weeks of Aug, all of Sept + first 2 weeks Oct. Ranged from 1 to a high of 23.

Amer. Osprey (rated casual, a western species) 13 seen on Oct 14.

Wilson's Phalarope - 7, 13, 15 first 3 weeks Aug and 11 in Sept

Northern Phalarope (rated Casual here)
1 on Sept 8 and 1 on Sept 15

Forster's Tern - 2 on Sept 8; 3 Sept 29; 8 Oct 6 and
1 Oct 13

Common Tern (uncommon migrant here)
1 on Sept 8; 3 Sept 22; 2 on Oct 6 + 4 on Oct 13

Caspian Terns (uncommon migrants here)
present Sept 12 through Oct 13 peaking
at 21, 64, 75 per day.

Olive-sided Flycatcher (uncommon migrant)
2 on Sept 1, 12, + 22.

Eastern Bluebirds - Scarce. A few small
flocks seen during migration. I think we had
a major kill in our April 9 blizzard.

Water Pipit (uncommon migrant)
7 on Oct 13; 11 on Oct 14; 20 on Oct 22; 30 on Oct 28

Northern Shrike (rare winter resident)
positive identification by Phil Crowell + me,
half an hour study w. Binocs + Scope!
1 on Oct 27 + 1 on Oct 28, same bird in
same locality. (I very rarely ever see
a Northern Shrike in this area - have observed
carefully also on early date, Oct 27, 1970)

Pine Siskins - (uncommon winter resident)
a flock of 25 on Oct 27. Usually I see only
1 or 2 associated with goldfinches.

Sparrows very scarce here this fall.
With all the flood plain covered with water
there are no vast weed fields this fall.

LeCantel (uncommon migrant)
1 on Oct 27 + 3 on Oct 20.

Juncos + Tree Sparrows, our most
common winter residents, are far
scarcer this fall than usual.