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Bill Norris

Dear Dr. Dinsmore,

Here is a summary of interesting bird observations from northeast Iowa during the summer of 1996. Several observations occurred in late May. I have abbreviated observer names: LH (Lisa Hemesath), CC (Chris Coyle), DF (Denise Friedrich), AC (Andy Clement), PG (Patricia Gies), KA (Kathy Andersen), WN (William Norris).

For regularly occurring birds (e.g. blue-gray gnatcatcher), I have only listed counties where the bird was present. If you would like additional, more specific information about these observations, please let me know.

Be aware that several times I have referred to an observation as "observed in Clayton County, near Edgewood". Well, Edgewood is in Delaware County, but it is the nearest town to the woodland in question. Likewise, "observed in Clayton County, near Colesburg". The county listed for the bird observation is correct, even though the nearest town I give may be in a different, adjacent county.

Bill

Acadian Flycatcher: present through the summer in Allamakee, Clayton, Delaware, Dubuque, Fayette and Winneshiek Counties. An active nest was found by DF and WN near Decorah (Winneshiek Counties) on July 29.

Alder Flycatcher: One was heard by WN near Volga (Clayton Co.) on June 6. One was heard by LH near Garnavillo (Clayton Co.) on June 6. Two were heard by DF on June 13 in the Canoe Creek Wildlife Area (Winneshiek Co.).

Black Billed Cuckoo: At least nine different birds were observed throughout northeast Iowa during the summer. These were in Allamakee, Delaware, and Fayette Counties. The last bird heard was on July 31 near Elgin (Fayette Co.) by WN and DF.

Black-throated Green Warbler: One was heard on Jun 14 by WN and PG in the Ram Hollow Wildlife Area (Delaware Co.) It gave its zeeeeee zooooo zee zoo zee call in about 30 second intervals for at least fifteen minutes and was recorded during a point count. Another bird was heard by PG on June 19 at Fish Farm Mounds Wildlife Area in Allamakee Co. Neither bird was seen.

Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher: Present through the summer in Allamakee, Clayton, Delaware, Dubuque, Fayette and Winneshiek Counties. A nest under construction was found by LH in Pike's Peak State Park on May 21 1996.

Blue-Winged Warbler: Birds were observed in at least 10 locations in northeast Iowa, all in the month of June (the latest was June 27 in the Paint Creek Unit of the Yellow River Forest - WN). Birds were seen in Allamakee, Clayton and Winneshiek Counties.

Cooper's Hawk: An active nest was found by LH near Garnavillo (Clayton Co.) on June 6. One bird was observed in White Pine Hollow State Preserve in Dubuque Co. by AC on June 25. Two were seen near Volga (Clayton Co.) on

July 12 by WN. Two were seen near Dorchester (Allamakee Co.) by DF on June 26.

Canada Warbler: One was heard (but not seen) at close range (within 50 m radius) by WN in a private wooded tract near Colesburg (Clayton Co.) on June 27. The bird sang ("chip chu clippety clippety clop") repeatedly for at least 20 minutes near the top of a steep wooded ravine at about 7:30 in the morning and was recorded on a point count. NO CANADA WARBLERS WERE AT WHITE PINE HOLLOW THIS YEAR, despite intense searching.

Cerulean Warbler: Present in Allamakee (Paint Creek Unit of Yellow River Forest), Clayton (Pike's Peak State Park), Delaware (Ram Hollow Wildlife Area, Backbone State Park), and Dubuque (White Pine Hollow) Counties through the summer.

Chestnut-Sided Warbler: Recorded in at least nine locations this summer, including Allamakee (Fish Farm Mounds State Preserve), Clayton (Bloody Run Creek Wildlife Area), Fayette (near Elgin) Counties and Winneshiek (near Decorah) Counties. DF heard and saw one bird near Elgin (Fayette Co.) on July 12, and WN heard a bird on July 12 near Volga (Clayton Co.).

Hooded Warbler: One male was heard and seen by DF and CC on May 30 near the Decorah Airport (Winneshiek County). Another male was heard and seen by DF on June 27 in the Paint Creek Unit of the Yellow River Forest (Allamakee County).

Kentucky Warbler: A bird was observed by LH in the Paint Creek Unit of the Yellow River Forest (Allamakee Co.) on June 3. One was heard by LH at Pike's Peak State Park (Clayton Co.) on June 4. Three were heard in the Paint Creek Unit of the Yellow River Forest by WN on June 20. One was heard by WN and PG near Edgewood (Clayton Co.) on June 25.

Least Flycatcher: Observed in Clayton (3 locations) and Delaware (Ram Hollow Wildlife Area) Counties during the summer. Latest observation was on July 10 near Colesburg (Clayton Co.).

Louisiana Waterthrush: Present through the summer in Clayton, Delaware, Dubuque, and Fayette Counties.

Olive-sided Flycatcher: One was identified by AC on June 6 in Mossy Glen State Preserve (Clayton Co.) on the basis of a "three-beers" song fragment (missing the preliminary "pip"). WN tentatively tentatively identified a bird on the same date in Ram Hollow State Wildlife Area in Delaware Co. on the basis of the same song fragment. Neither bird was seen.

Orchard Oriole: Consistently observed near Lansing (Allamakee Co.) through the summer. Also seen near Rossville (June 4) and New Albin (July 1), also in Allamakee Co.

Ovenbird: Present through the summer in Allamakee, Clayton, Delaware, Dubuque, Fayette and Winneshiek Counties. A female was observed sitting on a nest on May 29 near Dorchester (Allamakee). A bird was flushed off a nest containing five eggs in Ram Hollow State Wildlife Area (Delaware Co.) in June (sorry . . . lost the exact date).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: A nest was found by AC in the Paint Creek Wildlife Area of the Yellow River Forest (Allamakee Co.) on May 22.

Parula Warbler: Two were heard by WN on June 6 in Backbone State Park (Delaware Co.) in floodplain forests. One was heard by KA on June 13 in White Pine Hollow State Preserve (Dubuque Co.). One was heard by KA at the Waukon Junction Unit of the Yellow River State Forest (Allamakee



Co.) on June 19.

X Veery: Present in White Pine Hollow (Dubuque Co.), Backbone State Park (Delaware Co.), and two private woodlands (near Strawberry Point and Giard) in Clayton Co.

X Willow Flycatcher: One was heard on June 18 near Albin (Allamakee Co.) by KA and PG. Observed through the summer by WN at Ram Hollow State Wildlife Area (Delaware County). One was heard by DF on June 17 at Bloody Run Creek Wildlife Area (Clayton Co.). One was heard on June 5 near Elgin (Fayette Co.) by AC.

X Winter Wren: One was heard and seen by LH on June 20 at Mossy Glen State Preserve (Clayton Co.). One was heard and seen by AC at White Pine Hollow State Preserve (Dubuque Co.) on June 24. This latter bird was last heard by WN on July 12.

X Wood Thrush: Present through the summer in Allamakee, Clayton, Delaware, Dubuque, Fayette and Winneshiek Counties.

A Worm-Eating Warbler: One was heard and seen by AC on June 3 at Fish Farm Mounds Wildlife Area (Allamakee Co.). The same bird was seen and heard by WN and AC on June 4. Last heard on June 30.

X Yellow-Billed Cuckoo: Observed in at least 21 locations throughout northeast Iowa during the summer. These were in Allamakee, Clayton, Delaware, Dubuque, Fayette and Winneshiek Counties.

X Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: Active nests were found near Lansing and New Albin in Allamakee Counties. Birds were also present in Winneshiek County near Decorah.