

Wigg

Iowa



Melba W. Wigg
1633 South 99th Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68124

Vernon M. Kleen
Div. of Wildlife Resources
Dept. of Conservation
Springfield, Illinois 62706

Dear Mr. Kleen:

I would like to submit some bird sightings to AMERICAN BIRDS from Pottawattamie and Mills Counties. Some Omaha Birders have made trips to the DeSoto Bend Wildlife Refuge this fall and unusual sightings from there are also included.

Our favorite pond for watching migrant shorebirds has been drained and the area used for land fill so consequently our sightings have been drastically cut.

Since I also report to Frances Williams in the Southern Great Plains Region and am compiler for the Omaha Christmas Count, (half of our area is located in Iowa), I hope to have more reports for you in the future.

Sincerely,

Melba W. Wigg

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- Common Loon First sighting (1) Nov. 3 DeSoto Bend MW
(1) still present on Lake Manawa Nov. 22
JG
- Double Crested Cormorant (5) Lake Manawa Oct. 14 JG
(6+) DeSoto Bend Refuge Nov. 3 MW, MH
Considered uncommon in our area.
- White Pelican Since this species is on the Blue List
I have two reports of interest:
Jim Malkowski, Director of Fontendelle
Forest Nature Center was driving north
on I-29 Sept. 29; at about 9:30 a.m.
wave after wave of White Pelican flew
over migrating south. The birds were
flying fairly low in their "V" formation
and he was able to count 600.

(100+) Seen at Forney's Lake, Mills Co.
on Sept. 9 by Ruth Green
- Whistling Swan An uncommon migrant.
(3) DeSoto Bend Refuge Nov. 13 MM, CN
- Black Duck (2) Nov. 14 DeSoto Bend Refuge MW, MH
Occasionally appearing in the area.
- Common Goldeneye Uncommon winter visitant.
(1) Nov. 14 DeSoto Bend Refuge MW, MH
- Goshawk An occasional winter visitor
(1) seen several times during the week
of Nov. 5. RS
- Hooded Merganser Occasional migrant and winter visitor in
Missouri River Valley Region.
(12) 7males, 5 females Nov. 3
DeSoto Bend Refuge MW, RG
- Golden Eagle Uncommon in this area
(3) Nov. 13 DeSoto Bend Refuge MM, CN
- Bald Eagle (40) Counted at the DeSoto Bend Refuge
while on a field trip with an Omaha
nature club. Nov. 17 RG
- Caspian Tern Considered an uncommon spring migrant
on the Missouri River.
(15) Lake Manawa Oct. 16 MP

Barn Swallow

Thousands were seen at Lake Manawa
Oct 16 where they must have stopped to
rest and feed during their migration.
MP

Kentucky Warbler

Area around Bellevue, Nebr. and Council
Bluffs considered the northern limit for
this species.

(1) Council Bluffs Aug. 30 JG

Vesper Sparrow

Early Fall sighting

(15) Council Bluffs Aug. 30 JG

List of Contributors.

Ruth Green	RG
Janet Greer	JG
Mary Harberg	MH
Jim Malkowski	JM
Marion Maier	MM
Catherine Nelson	CN
Marie Pluta	MP
Roger Sharp	RS
Melba Wigg	MW

I do use the Revised Check-list of Nebraska Birds to help determine
the status of species in this area.