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General Comments: Most of my birding this summer has been limited to my backyard. My general sense is that the neotropical migrants are in major trouble. Nesting pairs of Indigo Buntings, Northern Orioles, Gray Catbirds, and both cuckoo species are down significantly. Vireos are non-existent. Lark Sparrows have been singing all summer. House Finches have taken over. Once again the House Wrens have destroyed the Eastern Bluebird nests. Hummingbird observations have been sporadic, but their appearance leads me to believe that they must be nesting somewhere nearby. All in all, it has been quite a change in 17 years. Maybe fall migration will bring some hope!

SPECIES	DATE	NO.	LOCALITY	COUNTY	COMMENT
PACIFIC LOON	7/14/94	1	Anderson Lake	Hamilton	see documentation
LITTLE BLUE HERON	7/24/94	8	Otter Creek Marsh	Tama	all juveniles
GREEN-BACKED HERON	7/24/94	7	Otter Creek Marsh	Tama	at least four juv. birds
BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON	7/24/94	1	Goose Lake	Clinton	
YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON	7/24/94	1	Otter Creek Marsh	Tama	juvenile bird - long legs; grayer with fewer spots
FULVOUS WHISTLING-DUCK	7/24/94	1	Goose Lake	Clinton	see documentation
PEREGRINE FALCON	7/17/94	5	Des Moines	Polk	2 males; 1 female fledged
COMMON MOORHEN	7/24/94	11	Goose Lake	Clinton	at least two families
SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER	7/24/94	1	Green Island WMA	Jackson	
WESTERN KINGBIRD	7/17/94	3	Des Moines	Polk	