

Iowa

Summer 1971

Notes for

American Birds

Black, — Iowa, Pleasantville

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Nesting Season 1971  
Pleasantville, Marion County, Iowa  
and Red Rock Refuge, " " "

### Herons, Great Blue

For the first time in half a century, Great Blues had successful nestings in the Rookery in Red Rock Refuge where last year 15 pairs had complete nesting failure due to egg breakage. (Rookery nests first built summer of 1970)

### Ducks - Hood

Successful nestings in the Refuge with many little Woodies on the water.

### Hawks

Nesting Red Tails and Sparrow Hawks both down in numbers here.

### Swallows

100+ pairs of Cliff Swallows had success nestings on the traditional Painted Rocks cliff in the Refuge.

The 71 nests (first used in 1969) on the face of Red Rock dam were mainly usurped by House Sparrows this summer with only a few pairs of Cliffs there ~~there~~

A few Tree Swallows apparently nested in this area (they rarely nest here) and were observed with flocks of Cliffs feeding over the fields in late July + early Aug.

### Cuckoos

Both species extremely rare here this summer.

### Mackinbirds

5 Singing Macks located in their favorite old shrubby pasture, first nestings predated, whereas 6 pairs had successful nestings here in 1970

### Babalinks

Two pairs remained thruout the nesting season but no nests located. Prior to 1969, no Babalinks had been seen during the nesting season for decades.

weather - a dry summer with just enough rain to ensure a bumper corn crop but pastures poor. Very hot in late June then very cool for a couple of weeks in July.