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STATE BIRD OF IOWA: THE GOLDFINCH

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PUBLISHERS OF

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A QUARTERLY MAGAZINE

FIELD REPORTS EDITOR

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1981 Records accepted by the IOU Records Committee
so far include

Curved-billed Thrasher, 28 Jan-Mar, Rathbun Res.

Arctic Loon, 28 Apr, Anawa L.

White-faced Ibis, 13 May, L. Manawa

" 19 May, Willow S.

Thayer's Gull, 19, 24, 28 Mar 1981, L. Manawa

Prairie Warbler, 20 May 1981, Marshall Co

Sw. Am's Longspur, 11 Apr, Johnson Co

Not accepted was

Sharp-tailed Sparrow 23 May, Ledges SP

FIELD REPORTS

FALL 1981

Thomas H. Kent, Field Reports Editor

211 Richards Street

Iowa City IA 52240

WEATHER AND HABITAT CONDITIONS

Comments were as follows. Temperature and rainfall were fairly normal at Iowa City except for a cold snap on 15-24 Oct (JPS). Rain kept water levels high at Coralville Res., so there were very few shorebirds (TK). The raising of water levels at Red Rock Res. due to early duck hunting ruined all shorebird habitat in early Sep, but the addition of 1-2 feet of water made for high numbers of waders (RT). In Sioux Co., Aug was wet with average temperatures, Sep mostly dry and warm with a high of 92 degrees on Sep 29, Oct dry and normal with snow on Oct 24, and Nov dry and mild early with major snow storms on 18-19 and 30 Nov (JV). In southwest Iowa, conditions remained dry until mid Jul, but the rains, which petered out in mid-Aug, were not enough to fill Forney L., Willow S., or farm ponds. Water was pumped into Forney L. (BWi).

GENERAL TRENDS

There was little mention of concentrations of waterfowl except for rafts of diving ducks on the Mississippi R. Oldsquaws were more in evidence than usual. Several sightings of Goshawks suggest that this is an invasion winter. Shorebirding was poor

this year due to high and low water levels. Warblers were reported in good numbers and variety with many early and late dates. Prominent winter birds included Red-breasted Nuthatches and Pine Siskins, and, to a lesser extent, Red Crossbills.

UNUSUAL SIGHTINGS

Casual species recorded included Plegadis sp., Mute Swan, Ross' Goose, Prairie Falcon, Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, and Varied Thrush. Accidentals were Black Rail, Thayer's Gull, Burrowing Owl, and Western Tanager. Two exotics reported were a Bar-headed Goose at Rice L., Winnebago Co. (WMH, MAH), and two Ruddy Shelducks in Wayne Co. (CS).

LOONS THROUGH DUCKS

Common Loon: One summered from 4 Jul on at Mormon Trail L., Adair Co. (Bruce Drey fide JD). Early and late dates for migrants were 20 Oct at L. Manawa (TB et al) and 28 Nov at Coralville Res. (JPS) and Keokuk (PCP).

Horned Grebe: 2 at Little Clear L., Pocahontas Co., on 9 Sep (MB) represent the second earliest date on record. The latest were 6 at Saylorville Res. on 21 Nov (JR) and 1 at L. Macbride on 16 Nov (TK, CB, MN).

Eared Grebe: 1 at Pickeral L., Pocahontas Co., on 29 Aug (RC) was the third earliest fall record. Others were 1 at Whitten Lagoon in s. e. Hardin Co. on 15, 20 Sep (BPr et al) and 10 at L. Manawa on 20 Oct (TB et al).

Western Grebe: There was a "summer" record from Bettendorf on 13 Jul (Bob Dau fide PCP).

American White Pelican: Flocks were noted in early to mid Sep:

50 at Hamburg on 8 Sep (IG), 150 in Emmet Co. on 11 Sep (DHen), and 260 at Red Rock L. on 19 Sep (JR, RL, GB). A second latest record was 1 at DeSoto NWR on 14 Nov (JR).

Double-crested Cormorant: Peak numbers were 125 counted at Red Rock L. on 1 Oct (RT) and 95 at DeSoto NWR on 10 Oct (JR). August records were 1 on 1, 2 Aug at Sabula (JSb), 1 at DeSoto NWR on 5 Aug (JR) and 16 Aug (RL), and 1 on 22 Aug at Bay's Branch (RL). September records were 19 Sep (25 at Coralville Res., TK, and 21 at Red Rock L., JR, RL) and 29 Sep (40 at L. Manawa, BWi). There were many Oct reports, the peak month for migration. November reports were 1-6 at Davenport from 4-26 Nov (PCP), 2 at Lock 9 on 14 Nov (DK, RM, FM), 1 at Saylorsville on 22 Nov (JR), and 1 at Centerville on 29 Nov (WMH, MAH).

Great Blue Heron: 195 were counted at Red Rock L. on 11 Sep (RT). Last dates were 29 Nov at Lock 9 (JSb, JR) and 30 Nov in Pocahontas Co. (RC).

Green Heron: 4 were at Ledges SP on 26 Sep (JR).

Little Blue Heron: There were no summer or fall reports this year.

Cattle Egret: 1 was seen in Emmet Co. on 13 Sep (DHen).

Great Egret: 85 were counted at Red Rock L. on 11 Sep (RT) and 80 were there on 19 Sep (RL, GB, JR).

Black-crowned Night Heron: 1 ad. and 3 imm. were at Red Rock L. on 19 Sep (JR).

Yellow-crowned Night Heron: 9 were at Center L., Dickinson Co., on 4 Aug (DHa, LF, LH).

→ Least Bittern: Elwood Martin of Patuxent Research Refuge, Laurel MD, reported 1 on a record late date of 12 Nov at Goose L., Greene Co. (fide PCP).

American Bittern: 9 were at Big M. on 26 Sep (RMy, FM, RHa).

Plegadis sp.: There were two documented reports of Plegadis species from Eldridge, Scott Co., on 2 Sep (*LB) and Runnells Game Area on 11 Sep (*JSin). These will be referred to the Records Committee for evaluation of species. The Records Committee has recently reviewed all previous records of Plegadis species for Iowa. Only three were judged to be definitely White-faced and none definitely Glossy. Others were considered

Plegadis sp.

Mute Swan: One was seen on a gravel pit in n. w. Marshall Co. from 11-25 Sep (*BPr, m. ob.). It was thought to be wild because it was not always present.

Whistling Swan: 7 (3 ad., 4 imm.) were at Saylorville Res. on 22 Nov (JR) and up to 84 were at Lock 9 from 14 to 29 Nov (m. ob.).

Snow Goose: 6 were at Cone M. on 4 Oct (JPS) and 140,000 were at DeSoto NWR on 14 Nov (JR).

→ Ross' Goose: 2 to 7 including several immatures were observed at DeSoto NWR on 31 Oct and 1, 14, 15 Nov (*JR).

probably
regular

American Black Duck: 1-2 were at DeSoto NWR on 24 Oct (BWi), 31 Oct (JR), and 11 Nov (TB, SK, BPa); 1 was at Pickeral L., Pocahontas Co., on 7 Nov (RC).

Canvasback: 3000-5000 were at the Keokuk pool on 25 Oct (TK, MN)

and 28 Nov (PCP, MLP). MLP) and 450 were at Lock 9 on 29 Nov (JSb, JR).

large #
Ring-necked Duck: 3000 were at Lock 9 in n. e. Iowa on 28 Nov (TK) while only 50 were at the Keokuk pool in s. e. Iowa on the same day (PCP, MLP).

rare → Greater Scaup: 1 was identified by long white wing stripe on 20 Oct at L. Manawa (*BJR, TB, SK, BPa).

Lesser Scaup: 2000 were at Keokuk pool on 28 Nov (PCP, MLP).

more than usual → Oldsquaw: Sightings were from five locations: 1-2 at Saylorville Res. on 14, 22 Nov (*JSb, JR), 3 at Clear L. on 22 Nov (Dale Hamburg fide JD), 1 at Lock 9 on 25 Nov (DK, JSb), 3 at Red Rock L. on 27 Nov (RT, GB), and 1 shot at Pickeral L., Pocahontas Co., on 28 Nov (Ron Reese, Wallace Jardine fide RC).

White-winged Scoter: 4 were seen on the Mississippi R. e. of Ft. Madison on 25 Oct (*TK, MN). Another report was from Maffit Res., Dallas Co., on 1 Nov (Gene Armstrong fide HZ).

Common Goldeneye: 1 was early on 8 Oct at lock 9 (JSb, DK).

Hooded Merganser: 17 were at Saylorville Res. on 21 Nov (JR) and 10 were at Lock 9 on 28 Nov (TK).

Common Merganser: 150 were at Saylorville Res. on 21 Nov (JR).

Ruddy Duck: 50 were at Keokuk pool on 28 Nov (PCP, MLP).

VULTURES THROUGH TURKEY

Osprey: The earliest date was 20 Aug at St. Lucas (JSb) and the latest 21 Nov at DeSoto NWR (Bwi).

Bald Eagle: The earliest date was for an imm. on 26 Sep at Keosauqua (JPS).

Northern Harrier: 3, including 1 probable imm., were at Hayden Pr. on Aug 4 near the site where they nested this summer (RPB, CAB). Another was in Winneshiek Co. on 10 Aug (JSb).

invasion year → Goshawk: Four sightings were well documented: a bird that died was seen on 5, 7 Nov at Ames (*JR, JSb), an ad. on 15 Nov at Hickory Hill P., Iowa City (*MN, *RHo, *TK), an ad. on 21 Nov at Seven Bridges SP, Bremer Co. (*RMy, *FM), and an imm. on 21 Nov at Big Creek L., Polk Co. (*JR, *JSb, *HZ). Another undocumented report was from Volga L. on 28 Nov (JSb, JR). Mike Newlon pointed out a useful field mark that is not emphasized in the field guides: the dark primaries contrast with the lighter blue-gray wing coverts.

Cooper's Hawk: Reports, unsupported by details, were from 7 Sep at Ames (JD, SD, MD), 11 Sep at Iowa City (RHo), 27 Sep at Big Creek L. (JR, JSb) and Lacey-Keosauqua SP (JPS), and 25 Oct at Kent P., Johnson Co. (RHo).

Red-tailed Hawk: Krider's Redtails were reported from Sioux Co. on 12 Sep (JV), Cherokee Co. on 18 Sep (MB), and Emmet Co. on 26 Sep (DHen). A Harlan's Hawk was reported from Iowa City on 16 Nov (*MN).

Red-shouldered Hawk: 1 was at Yellow River F. on 3 Oct (DK).

Swainson's Hawk: There were six sightings: 3 Aug at Readlyn, Bremer Co. (DK), ~~3~~ Aug at Calmar, Winneshiek Co. (JSb), 17 Aug in O'Brien Co. (Ron Harms fide JC), 18 Sep in Mills Co. (BWi), 10 Oct at DeSoto NWR (JR, JSb), and 17 Oct in Cass Co. (TE).

Golden Eagle: Sightings were all from Allamakee Co. on 14, 25,

29 Nov (*RMy, *FM, m. ob.).

Prairie Falcon: There were several well documented sightings near DeSoto NWR on 10 Oct (*JR, *JSb), 5 Nov (*TB, BPa, SK), and 8 Nov (*EK). Another was documented in n. w. Mills Co. on 20 Oct (*BPa, SK, TB). One was reported, with black axillaries noted, from Webster Co. on 12 Nov (Elwood Martin fide PCP).

Merlin: 1 was at Red Rock L. on 9 Oct (*RT).

Common Bobwhite: Many adults with young were noted in w. and central Sioux Co. in late Aug (JV) indicating good recovery in this northern part of the species range.

Gray Partridge: 20 were noted at Little Wall L., Hamilton Co. on 15 Nov (JSb),

Wild Turkey: 3 were in Guthrie Co. on 28 Nov (RC).

CRANES THROUGH TERNS

Black Rail: 1 reported on 29 Aug at Cone M. (*TK, IBL 51:95) will be referred to the Records Committee.

Semipalmated Plover: 1 was late at Prairie Rose SP, Shelby Co. on 11 Oct (JR, JSb).

Killdeer: 156 were noted in Cherokee Co. on 15 Oct (MB).

Lesser Golden Plover: 1 was at Eldridge, Scott Co., on 5 Sep (PCP, RSi), 1 at Little Wall L. on 20 Sep (JR, JSb), 20 in Pocahontas Co. on 4 Oct (RC), and 1 w. of Waterloo on 7 Nov (RMy, FM).

Black-bellied Plover: 5 were at Red Rock L. on 19 Sep (JR).

Upland Sandpiper: 3 were in Story Co. on 1 Aug (HZ) and 1 was at St Lucas on 13 Oct (JSb), the second latest date on record.

Greater Yellowlegs: Several late records were noted: 12 Nov in Keokuk Co. (DK), 8 Nov at Coralville Res. (FM), and 7 Nov w. of Waterloo (RMy, FM) and in Story Co. (JR, JSb).

late
Solitary Sandpiper: There were two record late dates: 11 Oct at Ames (JR, JSb) and 26 Sep at Lost Island L., Clay Co. (RC).

Spotted Sandpiper: 1 was late at Ledges SP on 26 Sep (JR, JSb).

Northern Phalarope: 2 were at Silver L., Osceola Co., on 21 Aug (BWi) and 2 were in s. e. Hardin Co. on 15-29 Sep (BPr et al).

American Woodcock: Reports were from Big Sioux R., w. Lyon Co. (DHa) and Montezuma (DK), both on 23 Oct.

Short-billed Dowitcher: 1 in alternate plumage was at Coralville Res. on 22 Aug and 2 juveniles were n. of Davenport on 6 Sep (TK).

Long-billed Dowitcher: 3 were identified by call n. of Davenport on 5 Sep (PCP, RSi). Reporters are urged to give details of identification for all dowitchers observed or heard. I will list here all those that appear adequately identified.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: 1 was late on 11 Oct at Prairie Rose SP, Shelby Co. (JR, JSb).

Western Sandpiper: Details were provided for 1 at Coralville Res. on 22 Aug (TK) and 3 at Ames on 6 Sep (JSb); 3 were listed at Little Wall L. on 20 Sep (JR, JSb).

Least Sandpiper: 1 w. of Waterloo on 7 Nov (RMy, FM) is the second latest date on record.

Baird's Sandpiper: 1-3 were in Winneshiek Co. on 16, 18 Aug (JSb) and 2 were at Prairie Rose SP, Shelby Co., on 11 Oct (JR, JSb).

Pectoral Sandpiper: 1 on 15 Nov w. of Waterloo (FM, RHa) is the third latest date on record.

2nd State records? Comments?
Thayer's Gull: Two reported at Coralville Res. on 7 Nov (*TK, CB, see separate note and photos) will be referred to the Records Committee.

Ring-billed Gull: 5 were at Credit I. on 8 Aug (PCP). Large concentrations were on the Iowa reservoirs: 3000 at Red Rock L. on 7 Nov (RT), 400 at Coralville Res. on 7 Nov (TK), and 190 at Saylorville Res. on 21 Nov (JR, JSb).

Franklin's Gull: 393 were counted at Red Rock L. on 8 Oct (ET).

Bonaparte's Gull: These gulls seem to associate with the large concentrations of Ring-bills and are remaining into late Nov. There were 6 at DeSoto NWR on 5 Nov (TB, SK, BPa), 25 at L. Macbride on 8 Nov (TK, CB, MN), 40 at Saylorville Res. on 21 Nov (JR, JSb), and 8 at Red Rock L. on 27 Nov (RT, GB), the latter tying the record late date.

Common Tern: Reports without details of identification were from DeSoto NWR on 5 Aug (RP et al) and Rathbun L. on 13 Sep (FM).

→ rare
Little Tern: Reports were from DeSoto NWR and north of there on 5 Aug (RP, MS, JB, Bwa) and 8 Aug (Rick Sojda, letter). The group from Shenandoah had the unusual luxury of seeing four species of terns together on 5 Aug: Forster's, Common, Little, and Elack.

Caspian Tern: There were many reported across the state from 5 Sep at Bettendorf (PCP, RSi) to 3 Oct at Coralville Res. (TK) with a peak of 60 at Coralville Res. on 19 Sep (TK, CB).

PIGEONS THROUGH WOODPECKERS

Mourning Dove: It is unusual to have anything to say about this species. A nest was noted at Sheeder Pr., Guthrie Co., on 13 Sep (RL) and 2 young fledged from a nest in Mills Co. after 8 Sep (BWi). A flock of 200 seemed unusual at Cone M. on 29 Aug (TK).

late
Yellow-billed Cuckoo: A fledgling was seen at Cone M. on 6 Sep (RHo) and 4 young were in a nest on 30 Aug in Mills Co. (BWi). Late dates were 28 Oct at Pleasantville (RT), 26 Oct at Des Moines (RL, CL), and 22 Sep in Story Co. (JR).

Black-billed Cuckoo: 1 was at Coralville Res. on 10 Oct (MN, m. ob.).

Snowy Owl: A photo of an injured bird at Little Clear L. on 28 Nov (Ron Harms) was received. Another was reported from Wayne Co. on 30 Oct (CS).

unusual
Burrowing Owl: One s. of Roland, Story Co., from 28 Aug to 16 Sep (*HZ, *RMy, *FM) was seen by many.

Long-eared Owl: There were five reports from 5 to 28 Nov.

2 missing
Short-eared Owl: A probable imm. was seen at Hayden Pr. on 4 Aug where adults had been present all spring and summer (RFB, CAB). One was at Centerville on 24 Oct (WMH, MAH).

Saw-whet Owl: Reports were from Cedar Falls on 15 Nov (FM, RHa) and Big Creeek L. on 21 Nov (JR, JSb, HZ).

Common Nighthawk: 54 were at Ames on 24 Sep and 1 on 26 Sep (JR).

Chimney Swift: 5 were at Ames on 13 Oct (JR) and 1 at Council Bluffs on 12 Oct (BWi).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: Only three reports from 29 Aug to 22

Sep. A nest with incubating female was found at St Lucas on 28 May 1979 (JSb). Very few nests of this species have been found in Iowa.

Red-headed Woodpecker: 1 was late on 22 Nov in Emmet Co. (DHen).

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH STARLING

Eastern Kingbird: 64 were noted in Cherokee Co. on 27 Aug (MB).

Western Kingbird: 15 were seen in Fremont Co. on 5 Aug (RP, MS) and 1 was at Cherokee on 21 Aug (MB).

rule Scissor-tailed Flycatcher: One was seen at Cone M. on 2 Aug (*TD).

Great Crested Flycatcher: 1 was in Mills Co. on 20 Sep (BWi).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 5 Aug was the earliest date on record at Pine Hill Cem., Davenport (PCP). A total of 61 were banded from 5 Aug to 3 Sep with a peak of 12 on 30 Aug (PCP). One was seen and heard at Hickory Hill P., Iowa City, on 19 Sep (*TK, CB).

Acadian Flycatcher: Individuals were banded and measured on 23, 25 Aug at Pine Hill Cem., Davenport (PCP).

Eastern Pewee: 2 were at Ames on 20 Sep (JR, JSb) and 1 was at Mills Co. on 23 Sep (BWi).

Barn Swallow: 30 were at DeSoto NWR on 17 Oct (JR) and 2 in Mills Co. on 20 Oct (BWi).

Purple Martin: The last date in n. e. Polk Co. was 27 Aug (DMos).

Blue Jay: Migration was noted from 8 Sep to 10 Oct with peak of 140 on 26 Sep in Mills Co. (BWi).

may Red-breasted Nuthatch: This was a prominent year for Red-

breasted Nuthatches with some seen by most observers. The earliest dates were 19 Aug at St Lucas (JSb), 22 Aug at Pine Hill Cem., Davenport (PCP), and 3 Sep at Iowa City (JF).

House Wren: A late one was singing at DeSoto NWR on 10 Oct (JR, JSb).

Winter Wren: There were reports from seven areas from 30 Sep to 15 Nov.

Bewick's Wren: 1 was at Hickory Hill P., Iowa City, on 27 Sep near the area of nesting this spring (TK).

Carolina Wren: The first report in two years was from Des Moines (R. Mooney fide HZ).

Marsh Wren: There were five reports including a record late date: 2 on 29 Aug at Cone M. (TK), 10 on 20 Sep at Larson M., Story Co. (JR, JSb), 1 on 10 Oct at DeSoto NWR (JR, JSb), 2 on 21 Nov at Rush L., Palo Alto Co. (RC), and 1 on 28 Nov at Anderson L., Hamilton Co. (HZ).

Sedge Wren: There were seven reports with many at DeSoto NWR (15 on 5 Aug, RP et al, and 23 on 16 Aug, RL, CL) and a late date of 2 Oct at the same location (JR, JSb).

Northern Mockingbird: 1 on 20 Nov was said to be a first record for Pocahontas Co. (Ron Harms fide RC).

Gray Catbird: Late dates were 1 at Pleasantville on 13 Nov (BT) and 2 at Sweet M. on 28 Nov (JR, JSb). The last one was seen in Mills Co. on 26 Sep (BWl).

Brown Thrasher: 1 was late in n. e. Polk Co. on 28 Nov (DMos).

American Robin: 135 were noted in Mills Co. on 5 Sep (BWl) and large migrations were noted on 26 Oct at Council Bluffs (CSc)

1st tendency
of recovery

and Johnson Co. (TK).

rare → Varied Thrush: One appeared at Storm L. on 20 Nov (*VC).

Hermit Thrush: Singles were seen at Sunken Grove on 22 Oct (MB) and Yellow River F. on 14 Nov (FM, RMy, DK).

Veery: 9 were banded at Pine Hill Cem., Davenport, from 30 Aug to 3 Sep (PCP) and 1 was seen there on 6 Sep (TK).

Eastern Bluebird: A nest was destroyed on 8 Aug in Mills Co. (BWi).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: 2 were seen at Waubonsie SP on 3, 5 Aug (RP et al).

Golden-crowned Kinglet: Good numbers were noted by several observers with waves on 17 Oct and 3 Nov at Hamburg (IG) and 27 at Manti Woods, Fremont Co., on 10 Oct (RP, MS).

Water Pipit: A record early date was 19 Aug in n. w. Johnson Co. (TK, CB). A large flock of 95 were at DeSoto NWR on 10 Oct (JR, JSb). Other reports were 4 at Union L., Hardin Co., on 22 Sep (BPr), 1 at Ames on 24 Oct (JSb), and 8 at Mark Sand Pr. on 31 Oct (RMy).

Northern Shrike: An imm. was at Big Creek, Polk Co., on 21 Nov (*JR, JSb, HZ). Four were seen in Fayette and Allamakee Cos. on 28, 29 Nov (JSb, JR).

Loggerhead Shrike: Reports were from the following counties: Johnson on 9 Sep (last date near nesting site, RHo) and 21 Nov (TK), Pocahontas on 15 Aug (RC), Story on 12 Sep, 4 Oct, 11 Nov (PM, HZ), Jasper on 19 Sep (JR), and Decatur and Wayne on 28 Nov (FM). Please give identifying marks observed for all winter shrikes so that we can begin to evaluate the

distribution of the two species in Iowa in winter.

VIREOS THROUGH WARBLERS

Bell's Vireo: 1 was banded at Pine Hill Cem. on 2 Sep (PCP).

Yellow-throated Vireo: 1 was seen at Hickory Hill P. on 20 Sep (TK, CB).

Solitary Vireo: 9 were at Ames on 20 Sep (JR, JSb). October dates were 10 Oct at Pilot Creek, Pocahontas Co. (RC) and at Coralville Res. (MN) and 17 Oct in Cass Co. (TB) and at Pleasantville (RT).

Red-eyed Vireo: A second latest record date was 4 Nov at Ames (*JR).

Philadelphia Vireo: 6 were at Hickory Hill P., Iowa City, on 13 Sep (TK) and 2 were at Davenport on 2 Oct (PCP).

Black-and-white Warbler: One was early at L. Meyer, Winneshiek Co., on 9 Aug (JSb) and another in Sioux Co. on 16 Aug (JV). A whopping 54 were at Rush L., Palo Alto Co. on 29 Aug (RC).

Blue-winged Warbler: 1 was at Big M. on the record late date of 26 Sep (FM). Others were at Davenport on 16, 30 Aug and 4 Sep (PCP, MLP).

Tennessee Warbler: Joe Schaufenbuel is emphatic about his record early date for this species: 9 Aug at St Lucas in 1979 and 9 Aug at Meyer L., Winneshiek Co., in 1980 and 1981.

Orange-crowned Warbler: 29 Nov at Credit I. is a record late date (JPS, JKS). Petersen recorded early and late dates of 13 Sep and 28 Oct at Davenport.

Nashville Warbler: Early dates were 11 Aug at St Lucas (JSb) and 16 Aug at Des Moines (banded, RI, CL).

Northern Parula Warbler: There were several sightings of this uncommon fall warbler: 5-22 Sep at Davenport (PCP, MLP), 13 Sep at Lacey-Keosauqua SP (JPS), 19 Sep at George Wyth SP (RMy, FM), 26 Sep at Big M. (FM), and 30 Sep at Ames (JR).

Magnolia Warbler: Singles on 10 Oct were noted at George Wyth SP (RMy) and at Keosauqua (JPS).

Cape May Warbler: Two reports: 15 Sep at Davenport (PCP) and 10 Oct at Keosauqua (JPS).

Black-throated Blue Warbler: Two reports: 16 Sep at Davenport (PCP) and 26 Sep at Waterloo (RMy, FM, RHa).

Yellow-rumped Warbler: An Audubon's Warbler was reported at Iowa City on 27 Oct (*MN).

Black-throated Green Warbler: 1 was late at Ames on 28 Oct (JR).

Cerulean Warbler: 1 was at Wildcat Den on 11 Aug (PCP, RE).

Blackburnian Warbler: 1 was early at Pine Hill Cem. on 17 Aug (PCP) and late reports were 17 Oct at Keosauqua (JPS) and 10 Oct in Dickinson Co. (DHa).

Yellow-throated Warbler: The bird observed all spring and summer n. of Keosauqua was last seen on 17 Aug (JPS). A very unusual late fall sighting was well documented at Cedar Rapids on 4 Nov (*R & KG).

Chestnut-sided Warbler: 1 was early at Pine Hill Cem. on 12 Aug (PCP).

Bay-breasted Warbler: 1 at Keosauqua on 17 Aug (JPS) matches the record early date.

Blackpoll Warbler: A record late date was 12 Oct at Davenport (PCP, MLP).

Pine Warbler: There were several reports of this rare species: 2 Sep at Waterloo (RMy), 20 Sep at Hickory Hill P., Iowa City (TK, CB), 26 Sep at Waterloo (FM), and 4 Oct at Cone M. (JPS).

Northern Waterthrush: 1 was at Little Clear L. on 11 Aug (RC).

Connecticut Warbler: 1 was at Bradgate A., Humboldt Co., on 30 Aug (RC).

Mourning Warbler: Reports were from Pine Hill Cem. on 16 Aug (PCP), 8 Sep at Ames (JR), and 26 Sep at Waterloo (FM).

Yellow-breasted Chat: 1 was banded at Pine Hill Cem. on 27 Aug (PCP).

Wilson's Warbler: 1 at Waterloo on 8 Aug (RMy) ties the record early date. Other early birds were banded at Davenport on 16 Aug (PCP) and at Des Moines on 18 Aug (RL, CL).

Canada Warbler: 14 were banded at Pine Hill Cem. with a record early date of 12 Aug (PCP). Another was early at Laurens on 14 Aug (Ron Harms fide RC).

MEADOWLARKS THROUGH BUNTINGS

Bobolink: 19 were seen in Story Co. on 20 Sep and 2 at Little Wall L. on 26 Sep (JR, JSb).

Orchard Oriole: 5 were near Wildcat Den SP on 11 Aug (PCP, RE). The last date in Mills Co. was 29 Aug (BWi).

Western Tanager: A tanager with wing bars, thought to be an immature male Western Tanager, was carefully described on 18 Oct at Waterloo (*RMy, *FM). This will be referred to the Records Committee.

Scarlet Tanager: Fall records were 29 Aug at Saylorville Res. (RL, CL), 26 Sep in Mills Co. (BWi), and 30 Sep at Davenport

comments?

(PCP).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: 2 were at Ledges SP on 26 Sep (JR, JSb).

Blue Grosbeak: 2 were at Forney L. on 5 Aug (RP et al), 1 was in Cherokee Co. on 21 Aug (MB), and several were in w. Sioux Co. on 16-20 Aug (JV).

Indigo Bunting: 3 were at Saylorville on 27 Sep (JR, JSb).

Dickcissel: Late dates were 12 Oct in Story Co. (PM, HZ, JR) and 10 Oct in Mills Co. (BWi).

Evening Grosbeak: There were reports from six locations, all from Nov except for 1 at Shenandoah on 17 Sep (MBV fide RP).

Purple Finch: Early dates were 9 Sep in n. e. Polk Co. (DMos) and 12 Sep at Iowa City (RHo). There were few other reports.

Common Redpoll: Three reports: 1 on 15 Oct at Rush L. (MB), 4 on 7 Nov in Story Co. (JR, JSb), and 10 on 25 Nov in Allamakee Co. (DK, JSb).

Pine Siskin: There were numerous reports, the earliest on 7 Oct in Mills Co. (BWi) and the largest number of 100 at Fairmont Cem., Davenport on 3 Nov (PCP).

American Goldfinch: Nest building was noted on 1 Sep and young were ready to fledge on 29 Sep in Marshall Co. (BPr).

Red Crossbill: There were reports from six locations of 1 to 23 birds, all in Nov except for 23 at Shenandoah on 24 Oct (RP, MS).

White-winged Crossbill: 5 were near New Albin, Allamakee Co., on 25 Nov (DK, JSb).

Rufous-sided Towhee: 2 of the spotted type were at DeSoto NWR on 10 Oct (JR, JSb).

Savannah Sparrow: 11 were at Pierce Creek Co. P. on 25 Oct (RP, BWa).

Grasshopper Sparrow: 1 was seen in Pocahontas Co. on 4 Oct (RC).

LeConte's Sparrow: There were seven Oct records and one for 20 Sep in Story Co. (JR, JSb).

Northern Junco: Early date was 27 Sep at Saylorville Res. (JR, JSb) and Hamburg (IG).

Chipping Sparrow: 1 was at Ames on 5 Nov (JR).

Clay-colored Sparrow: 1 was singing in Sioux Co. on 16 Oct (JV).

Field Sparrow: A nest with eggs was found at Sheeder Pr., Guthrie Co. on 22 Aug (RL, CL).

Harris' Sparrow: The early date was 7 Oct in n. e. Polk Co. (DMos) and 60 were at Cherokee on 11 Oct (RC).

Lapland Longspur: In marked contrast to last year, many large flocks were reported: 300 on 7 Nov near Grundy Center, 400 on 7 Nov in Story Co. (JR, JSb), 400 on 8 Nov near Waterloo (FM, RHa), 200 on 14 Nov in Story Co. (HZ), 2,000 on 15 Nov near Cedar Falls (FM, RHa), 100 on 16 Nov in Palo Alto Co. (DHen), 400 on 19 Nov near Cherokee (MB), and 250 on 21 Nov near Lone Tree, Johnson Co. (TK).

Snow Bunting: There were reports from seven locations, all in Nov, with the earliest on 8 Nov in Benton Co. (FM) and the highest count of 210 in Fayette Co. on 28 Nov (JSb, JR).

+ = documented

CONTRIBUTORS

Russell P. Baldner, Calmar; Lewis Blevins, Davenport; Tanya Bray, Omaha NE; Marion Brewer, Cherokee; Virginia Crocker,

Storm Lake; Raymond Cummins, Pocahontas; James Dinsmore, Ames; Timothy Dwyer, Muscatine; James Fuller, Iowa City; Ione Getscher, Hamburg; Ruth and Karl Goellner, Cedar Rapids; Ronald Harms, Laurens; Douglas Harr, Larchwood; Dennis Henrickson, Estherville; W. M. Heusinkveld, Centerville; Rick Hollis, Iowa City; Thomas Kent, Iowa City; Erwin Klaas, Ames; Darwin Koenig, Montezuma; Rene Laubach, Des Moines; Paul Martsching, Ames; Francis L. Moore, Waterloo; Dean Mosman, Elkhart; Robert K. Myers, Waterloo; Michael Newlon, Iowa City; Peter C. Petersen, Davenport; Ruth Phipps, Shenandoah; Beth Proescholdt, Liscomb; John Robinson, Ames; James P. Sandrock, Iowa City; Joe Schaufenbuel, St Lucas; Conrad F. Schlemmer, Council Bluffs; Charlotte Scott, Seymour; Sinclair, James; Robert Thornburg, Pleasantville; John Van Dyk, Sioux Center; Barbara Wilson, Hastings; Hank Zaletel, Ames;

OTHER OBSERVERS

Gene Armstrong (HZ), Carolyn A. Baldner (RPB), Carl Bendorf (TK), Gladys Black (RT), Jean Braley (RP), Mark Dinsmore (JD), Steve Dinsmore (JD), LaVonne Foote (DHa), Phyllis Harris (BPr), Russell Hays (FM, RMy), Linda Hinshaw (DHa), Sandra Kovanda (TB), Wally Jardine (RC), Christyma Laubach (RL), Richard Mooney (HZ), Ron Nelson (BPr), Babs Padelford (TB), Mary Lou Petersen (PCP), Mark Proescholdt (BPr), Ron Reese (RC), B. J. Rose (TB), Johanna K. Sandrock (JPS), Garnita Seward (BPr), Ross Silcock (PCP), Ramona Schmerlot (BPr), Marie Spears (RP), Tom Staudt (TK), Mary Beth Vaughn (RP), Loraine Wallace (DHa), Betty Walters (RP), Linda Zaletel (HZ).

COMMENTS

I want to thank all contributors for their high quality reports which were all received on time. The fall season is particularly difficult because it covers four months and ends at a busy time of the year. I am especially pleased that contributors followed the guidelines I outlined in the last issue of Iowa Bird Life. Any one desiring report or documentation forms can write to me (a dollar's worth of stamps would be helpful to cover costs).

I need help with the weather section of the field report. Barb Wilson notes my bias to eastern Iowa. In this report I paraphrased all of the comments received on weather and habitat. Unless more contributors mention weather, this is not very representative. Alternately, one could summarize official weather data by month. However, I do not have ready access to this type of information. Does anyone know of an easily available summary of monthly data for the state that would be available soon enough to cover the last month of the reporting period? Or better yet, would anyone like to provide a weather summary for the field reports? I need your suggestions and guidance.

You will note that I have used 'et al' after contributors in this report when there were four or more observers, however, I retained all of the initials if the sighting were particularly noteworthy. Observers who birded with the contributor are listed under observers, but, in most cases, birders who reported to the contributor are listed in the text. I have done this because those reporting to a contributor usually appear only once, while those birding with a contributor often appear many times. There are still some occasions when I can tell whether an observer was birding with a contributor or reported to the contributor.

There are some regular species for which identifying details should be briefly noted. These include birds that are difficult to identify such as Cooper's Hawk, dowitchers, Common Tern, winter shrikes, and others.