

# Wildlife Diversity News

*A Publication of the Iowa DNR Wildlife Diversity Program*

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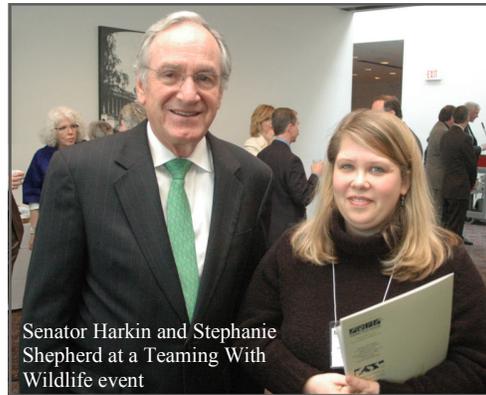
## Teaming Up for Wildlife in Washington D.C.

Since the mid-1990's the Wildlife Diversity Program has had the privilege of coordinating Iowa's Teaming With Wildlife coalition. The goal of the coalition, made up of 240 organizations and businesses, is to secure from the federal government adequate and sustainable funding for natural resources. It is nationally coordinated by the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies and when all the state and territory coalitions are combined it adds up to over 6,300 organizations nationwide. This is the largest and most diverse coalition of groups ever assembled to support natural resource funding.

The coalition has worked towards its goal slowly but surely. Since 2001, the State Wildlife Grants (SWG) program has brought in almost \$9 million dollars to Iowa for wildlife conservation and to help implement our Wildlife Action Plan. Teaming With Wildlife was largely responsible for the establishment of this funding program and while it is an annual appropriation, it has allowed us to fund research, land protection, and management that was impossible before its inception. It has been a huge benefit to wildlife conservation in Iowa and it leads the way towards better and more sustainable funding in the future.



So, it is with excitement that I looked forward to late February, when I once again got to travel to Washington D.C. for the annual Teaming With Wildlife Fly-in Days. This is an opportunity to meet with other state's coalition leaders and, most importantly, to meet with Iowa's Congressional Delegation. This year with the economic troubles still looming large the focus was on keeping State Wildlife Grants alive. Thankfully, it is an easy program to talk about with lawmakers, as it is popular on both sides of the aisle. It's a comparative bargain at about \$60-80 million a year and incorporates much oversight in how the money is spent. My



Senator Harkin and Stephanie Shepherd at a Teaming With Wildlife event

job is to inform them of the projects the money has funded in Iowa and why those projects are important.

To show their support of SWG, Senators and Congressmen sign onto a "Dear Colleague Letter" which is delivered to the Appropriation Committee's chairs. This year the Dear Colleague Letter asked for level funding from last fiscal year (\$61.3 million). Ultimately, this year's letters were signed by 110 Congressmen and 33 Senators. This included Congressmen Braley, Boswell, and Loeb sack and Senator Harkin from Iowa. In addition, Congressman Latham indicated that, as a member of the appropriations committee, he would voice his support for the program. Considering the economic climate, this was a very successful year indeed!

It is a very unique part of my job and it is inspiring to hear other state's stories which, in comparison, emphasize the great work Iowa is doing as well. It's heartening to witness the support State Wildlife Grants has on Capitol Hill and all the organizations working hard to make sustainable funding a reality. If you are part of an organization or business that you think would like to get involved with this effort, visit the Teaming With Wildlife website:

[www.Teaming.com](http://www.Teaming.com).

—Stephanie Shepherd  
Surveys & Data Coordinator

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*Edited by  
Natalie Randall*

# Diversity Dispatch

## Breaking News in the Wide World of Wildlife

### Concerns for Isle Royale Wolf Population

The gray wolves of Isle Royale National Park in Lake Superior may be at risk of being extirpated from the island in a few years. This is according to Michigan Tech University researchers Rolf Peterson and John Vucetich, who are currently heading the wolf-moose predator-prey study that has been ongoing at Isle Royale since the late 1950s. The wolf population there has declined from 24 individuals in 2009 to just nine individuals observed during this past winter's aerial counts. Only one of the nine remaining wolves is known to be female, meaning the continued existence of wolves on Isle Royale hinges on her ability to produce a healthy litter of pups. The moose population has responded to the low wolf numbers on the island, increasing from ~515 individuals to ~750 individuals over the course of the past year. Without a healthy wolf population to help keep moose numbers in check, moose will likely overbrowse the understory trees present on the island, halting forest regeneration. National Park Service Officials have yet to decide whether they should intervene by relocating mainland wolves to supplement the current population or allow nature to take its course.



Photo by William Campbell

### Another Stressor Associated with Colony Collapse Disorder in Bees



Photo by Kevin Cole

A recent study by researchers at the University of Padova in Italy has revealed that planting corn seed coated with insecticide can lead to honeybee deaths. Specifically, these honeybee declines are observed when pneumatic corn planters are used to drill corn seed coated with neonicotinoid insecticides. The planting machines vent particles of the insecticides into the air during the seed drilling process, and honeybees flying in the vicinity are then exposed to these airborne pesticide particles. The researchers found that honeybees having 30 seconds of exposure to the contaminated air—equivalent to the time it took a bee to fly across the crop field—resulted in acute lethal effects to the bee.

### New Leopard Frog Species Discovered....in NYC!

Although New York City is not the first place one would expect to discover a new frog species, a sharp-eared Rutgers University PhD student named Jeremy Feinberg heard an unusual frog croak during a visit to Staten Island in 2009. This curiosity prompted a field and laboratory study on what was, by all appearances, the Southern Leopard Frog, a species known to occur in the area. However, like a dozen other distinct species of North American Leopard Frogs, this yet unnamed Leopard Frog was both auditorily and genetically different from the others. The small range of this “new” Leopard Frog species stretches from Trenton, NJ, to Putnam County, NY, putting the center of its range near Yankee Stadium!

**SUPPORT CONSERVATION IN IOWA.**

**BUY A NATURAL RESOURCE PLATE.**

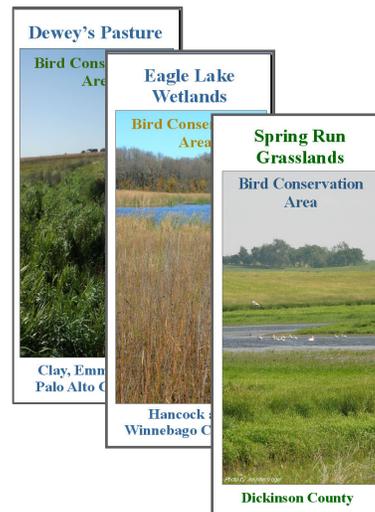
22% of the original purchase price and 60% of the renewal fee for natural resource license plates go directly to the Wildlife Diversity Program.

## Bird Conservation Area Brochures Available Online!

In an effort to protect dwindling populations of many Iowa birds, the DNR Wildlife Bureau created the Bird Conservation Area (BCA) Program in 2001. This concept is backed by research that suggests viable bird populations require conservation efforts at a landscape-oriented level. The current BCA model encompasses at least 10,000 acres of public and/or private lands that

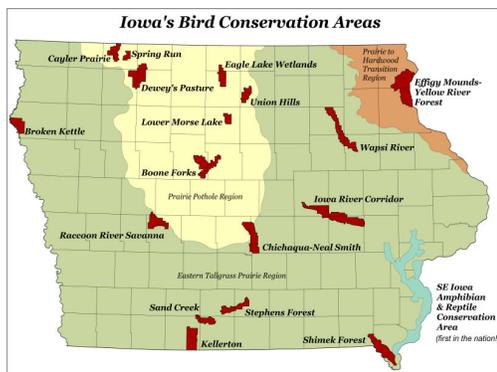
includes approximately 25% of the area as key bird habitat. For example, of the 37,241 acres comprising the Cayler Prairie BCA in Dickinson county, 8,367 acres of key grassland habitat are protected, or ~23% of the total area. Since 2001, 17 BCAs have been dedicated across the state of Iowa (see map, below left).

Over the last several years, the Wildlife Diversity Program has begun to create brochures for each BCA to showcase the bird diversity therein. Each brochure includes a field checklist of nesting and migratory bird species that can be seen or heard at that BCA. Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) are also indicated on each checklist. Additionally, the brochures highlight the plant and wildlife diversity that can be found within a particular BCA.



Thus far, brochures for 14 BCAs have been created. Pdfs of these brochures are available for free download online at [www.iowadnr.gov/BirdConservationAreas.aspx](http://www.iowadnr.gov/BirdConservationAreas.aspx).

—Natalie Randall  
Wildlife Diversity Outreach Assistant



## Multiple Species Inventory and Monitoring Project Starts Up for Spring

An unseasonably warm spring has primed the pump for field work this year. The Multiple Species Inventory and Monitoring (MSIM) Project field season started up again on April 2, and we are on our way to another good year. Through our partnership with Iowa State University, we have hired 25 technicians that will be working throughout the state implementing our survey protocols for mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fishes, butterflies, dragonflies, damselflies, and terrestrial and aquatic habitat characteristics.

The primary counties we will be working in this year are: Allamakee, Clayton, Jefferson, Henry, Des Moines, Lee, Van Buren, Harrison, Monona, Sioux, Lyon, Osceola, O'Brien, Dickinson, Emmet, Palo Alto, and Kossuth. We have a great group of partner landowners providing access to properties where we will be doing our wildlife survey work, including County

Conservation Boards, US Army Corps of Engineers, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Iowa DNR's State Parks, State Forests, and Wildlife Management Areas.

We hope to continue to add new species to the state as well as discover new populations of Species of Greatest Conservation Need. The favorable early spring weather has certainly set the stage

to find many species earlier than normal. The MSIM Project continues to provide vital data to help reach the goals outlined in the Iowa Wildlife Action Plan.

- Paul Frese  
Wildlife Diversity Technician II



Many of the 2012 MSIM crew members at our April training event.  
Photo by Paul Frese

# News from the Frog Pond



Spring is here again and, as usual, the Wildlife Diversity Program has a very busy schedule. We've just recently wrapped up the Volunteer Wildlife Monitoring Program trainings for the spring and now our volunteers are out and about recording information on Iowa's frogs, toads, colonial nesting birds, and raptors. We have started the field season for our Multiple Species Inventory and Monitoring Program, with plans to cover over 75 properties statewide this year. We are also beginning the final year of our Second Breeding Bird Atlas in cooperation with the Iowa Ornithologists' Union. We just had the dedication of the Otter Creek Marsh Wildlife Viewing Platform (see map below), which was the result of efforts of several partner organizations and private individuals. The platform is shaped like a Bald Eagle and was unveiled as part of the Sandhill Crane Festival. We hope that this incredible platform will be the first of many additional wildlife viewing platforms scattered across Iowa. If you haven't seen it yet, we encourage you to stop by and enjoy the sounds of the Sandhill Cranes.

As many of you know, we provide small funding opportunities for our partner organizations through two programs, our small research & education program (\$10,000 in funding with requests limited to \$2,500), and our small management grant program (\$15,000 in funding with requests limited to \$7,500). This year's recipients are:

### Research & Education Grants

**Iowa State University; Principal Investigators:** Eric Gangloff (ISU), Mike Todd (Ames High School), Rebecca Christoffel (ISU), & Anne Bronikowski (ISU); **Title:** Students & Serpents: Education through Hands-on Field Studies of Snakes

**River Action, Inc.; Principal Investigator:** Mikael Holgersson; **Title:** Nahant Marsh Turtle Monitoring Program, Davenport, IA , Year 3

**University of Dubuque; Principal Investigator:** Gerald Zuercher; **Title:** Spatial and Temporal Variation in Eastern Iowa Bat Assemblages

**St. Louis University; Principal Investigators:** Kirk Hansen (Iowa DNR), Lee Holt (AR GFC), Robert Wood (St. Louis University); **Title:** Morphological and Genetic Differences of Shovelnose Sturgeon from the Des Moines and Maquoketa Rivers

**University of Illinois; Principal Investigators:** Tim Lyons (UI), James Miller (UI), and Ryan Harr (ISU); **Title:** Identifying Predator-specific Patterns of Nest Loss in Fragmented Grasslands

### Management Grants

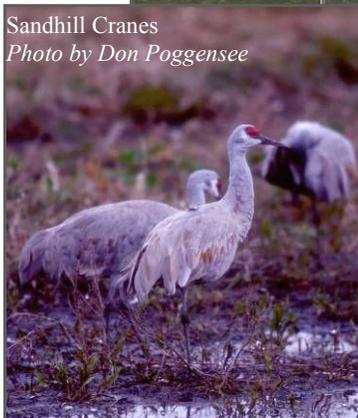
**Des Moines County Conservation Board; Proposal Author:** Kim Perlstein; **Project Title:** Brush Mower Purchase

**Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation; Proposal Author:** Joe McGovern; **Title:** Helping Restore Iowa's Native Lands – Land Stewardship Intern Program

**Story County Conservation Board; Proposal Author:** Amy Yoakum; **Title:** Robison Wildlife Acres Restoration Project

We fund these projects through our Natural Resources License Plate Fund, so once again, thank you so much to those of you who have a Natural Resources License Plate!

— Karen Kinkead  
Wildlife Diversity Program Coordinator



Sandhill Cranes  
Photo by Don Poggensee

## Of Red-shouldered Hawks & Wild Places



Red-shouldered Hawk nestlings  
Photo by Jon Stravers

One of the aspects that I especially appreciate about searching for Red-shouldered Hawks is the opportunity to visit places that are still wild. Gallery forests in riverine backwater areas with large trees and singing frogs, areas frequented by Herons, Wood Ducks, and Prothonotary Warblers – these are the areas that Red-shouldered Hawks call home. Because of its secretive nature, this species is more often seen than heard, and it is usually the plaintive telltale “kee-yer, kee-yer, kee-yer” cry that alerts a person to its presence.

Once considered a common summer resident in floodplain forests of eastern Iowa, this species nearly disappeared from the state. In 1977, it was placed on Iowa’s endangered species list. At that time, only 7 territories were known in Iowa, and the statewide population was estimated to be 19 pairs. The only known nesting locations, at that time, were in the Mississippi River floodplain in extreme northeastern Iowa.

Jon Stravers, Red-shouldered Hawk expert extraordinaire, has spent

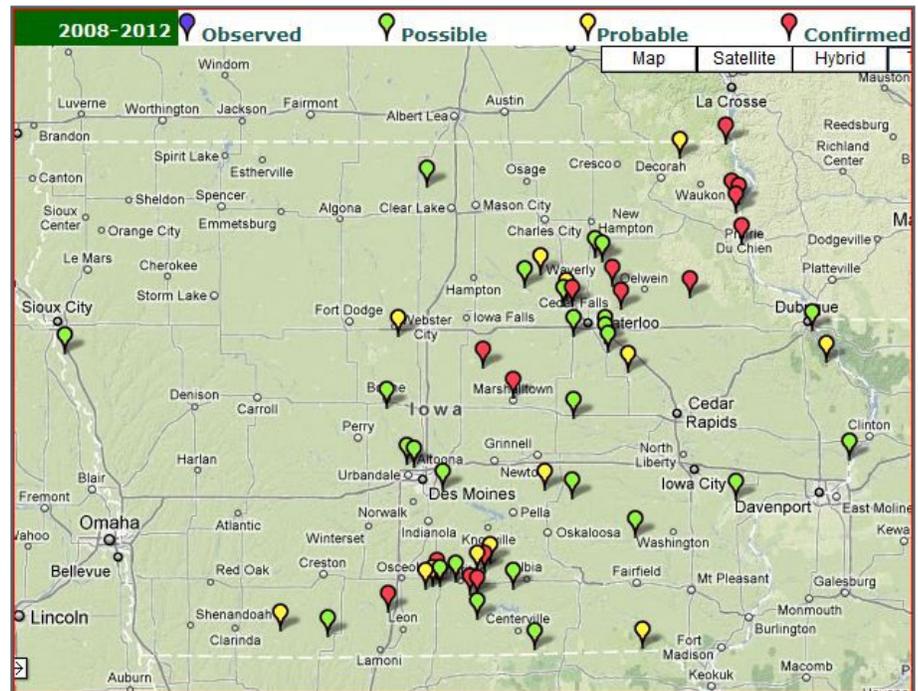
much of the last 30 years studying this unique species along the Mississippi River, and Jon deserves a great deal of credit for much of what we now know about this species. Jon also has been tireless in his effort to both share his knowledge of Red-shoulders and to encourage Red-shouldered Hawk appreciation.

Fortunately for both the bird and for those of us who do appreciate it, the status of the Red-shouldered Hawk in Iowa is more secure these days. For instance, during Iowa’s current Breeding Bird Atlas, there is some evidence of nesting for 54 blocks within 31 counties (see map, below). Nesting has been confirmed in 9 of these counties. These numbers are up from the first Breeding Bird Atlas, conducted from 1985-90. At that time, this species was found in 20 blocks within 13 counties, mostly along the Mississippi River. Distribution has changed significantly during the last two decades. For example, there are now

many nesting pairs in south-central Iowa, where 20 years ago there were none.

While participating in this the final season of Iowa’s Breeding Bird Atlas, I hope to have the good fortune of crossing paths with this species in a few more wild places, especially in floodplain areas of the Mississippi River in southeastern Iowa. The pursuit of Red-shoulders provides a great excuse to load the canoe on the car, grab my waders and binoculars, and visit backwater areas I might not otherwise frequent. This activity also allows the opportunity to witness bird species less frequently encountered elsewhere. I encourage others to pursue this species, as well – and please let us know what you find!

- Bruce Ehresman  
*Wildlife Diversity Avian Ecologist*



Iowa Breeding Bird Atlas records of Red-shouldered Hawk nesting evidence from 2008 to present.

## “MSIM Goes Volunteer” with Johnson County Conservation Board

On March 3, 2012, Karen Kinkead and I traveled to Oxford, Iowa for a day-long training session of a Multiple Species Inventory and Monitoring (MSIM) crew. This was not your ordinary MSIM crew; this crew was made up of volunteers all anxious to inventory a newly-acquired property of Johnson County Conservation Board (CCB). Although the MSIM program has had several individuals volunteer assistance in the past, never have we had an entire crew of strictly volunteers.

Ciha (pronounced “chee-uh”) Fen was purchased by Johnson CCB with assistance from the Iowa Natural Heritage foundation in December 2010 and possesses a habitat type uncommon on the Iowa landscape. Fens are a special type of wetland that are created by the seepage of mineral-rich groundwater to the surface. Peat soil generally forms over these groundwater seeps and remains

saturated, thus providing the mineral and nutrients required by fen plants. Ciha Fen is one of only two nutrient-poor fens in the state, the other being Dead Man’s Lake in Pilot Knob State Park near Forest City, Iowa. Because of these unique characteristics, fens are typically able to support more diverse animal and plant communities. Ciha Fen has been a property of interest for Johnson CCB since it was brought to the organization’s attention by naturalists Aaron Basten of Solon, Iowa and the late Dr. Paul Christiansen of Cornell College in Mt. Vernon, Iowa.

As proud owners of this ecological wonder, Johnson CCB staff set out to organize a crew of experts to conduct a comprehensive inventory of the plant and animal species inhabiting the property. The volunteer crew, organized



Ciha Fen, Johnson Co., IA  
Photo courtesy Johnson CCB

by Johnson CCB Naturalist Bradley Freidhof and Director Harry Graves, consists of several individuals of a variety of different backgrounds, all excited about using their skills to document the unique flora and fauna Ciha Fen hosts. The crew spans the spectrum of natural resource enthusiasts, from hobbyist birders to professional limnologists and beyond. With the assistance of Johnson CCB staff, the volunteers will be implementing MSIM protocols to survey

*Continued on Page 8*

## Surprising Results from the Bald Eagle Midwinter Survey

The 2012 midwinter survey took place during one of the mildest winters in recent years. With less ice covering Iowa waterways, it was easy to assume that fewer eagles would be seen than in previous surveys. This year, however, surveyors were in for a surprise.

The survey was conducted from January 4 to January 18, with target days on the 13 and 14. Fifty-three out of 56 active routes were run; all but one of those were run within the survey period. The survey as a whole recorded 3,232 eagles over 1,804 miles. This is relatively close to the 2011 survey’s final tally of 3,674. While the 2012 eagle count may be similar to 2011’s, the largest difference this year was in the amount of ice found along the survey: only 38.4%, down from 65.4% in 2011. The 2012 survey was expected to have a much lower eagle count, since the lack of ice allowed the



Bald Eagle with Mallard  
Photo by Bill Schuerman

birds to spread out farther and possibly avoid survey areas. The high numbers can be taken as a good sign that Iowa’s eagle population continues to grow.

Another surprise was the number of eagles found along the Missouri River. Traditionally, areas on the Mississippi River have greatly outpaced the rest of the state in eagle numbers. However, we’ve

been seeing a sharp rise in the number of eagles on the Des Moines River over the past couple years, and now the Missouri River may also be experiencing an increased population. Areas around the Missouri River see, on average, 32.76 eagles during the Midwinter Survey. In 2012, however, 195 eagles were recorded. While this area still falls behind the Mississippi region and the Des Moines River region, the 2012 survey indicates that eagles are spreading farther and wider through the state.

—Bridie Nixon  
*Volunteer Wildlife Monitoring Program  
Coordinator*

## Otter Creek Marsh Viewing Platform Dedication

The year was 1992. The place was Otter Creek Marsh in Tama, IA. A steady spring rain was collecting strength as a friend of mine was checking the marsh for any shorebird activity. Suddenly, he sighted a group of large birds flying in a rather tight formation – steel gray birds against a gray western sky.

“It was a squadron of Great Blue Herons, I think, but I have never seen seven in a flock,” he related to me.

“Well,” I asked, “were their necks coiled in an ‘S’ or extended straight out?”

He replied, “Their necks were straight out and their legs were like the tail on a kite. And when they landed, they began leaping like they were on pogo sticks.”

“Sounds like Sandhill Cranes,” I replied. “What a great bird to see returning to Iowa marshes!”

And so it was, after a 98-year absence, Sandhill Cranes began nesting in Iowa at Otter Creek Marsh in 1992. Iowa’s cranes have since nested in 21 counties, and this spring marks 20 years of continuous Sandhill Crane nesting in the state. To celebrate this success, the new viewing platform at Otter Creek Marsh was dedicated on April 20. As speakers, wildlife enthusiasts, and students gathered on the

eagle-shaped platform (see photo, center), the sun broke through the breezy spring afternoon to take the chill out of the air.

The dedication began with 96-year-old Bill Horine regaling the audience, which included elementary students from the Meskwaki settlement, with wildlife stories from his years as an outdoor writer and photographer. Referencing the active Bald Eagle nest that can be seen from the viewing platform scope, Bill spoke of the tremendous comeback this species has made in the state, and that our proximity to great rivers allows people to easily

view nesting eagles. Next, Jonathan Buffalo, historical director at the Meskwaki settlement, spoke of the tribal ties to the marsh and the Iowa River. The concerns the Meskwaki people had regarding the water quality of the Iowa River in the mid-1900’s has since been acknowledged with the creation of the Iowa River Corridor. Cathy Henry, USFWS Refuge Manager for Port Louisa District, credited the many partners that united to create the Iowa River Corridor after the floods in 1993. This project helped achieve stream-bank stability with the creation of buffer strips and restoration of marshland, providing a sponge effect to minimize flooding.

Next, Ron Windingstad with National Audubon provided background on the Carole S. Donovan Memorial that afforded funds for the viewing structure,



Otter Creek Marsh Viewing Platform, modeled after a soaring eagle.  
Photo by Pat Schlarbaum

recognizing the importance of Otter Creek Marsh to diverse bird habitat. The DNR regional management supervisor, Rick Trine, discussed current and future habitat goals of the Iowa River Management Unit. Wildlife managers and private lands biologists help create habitat that provides the public with opportunities for wildlife viewing across the state of Iowa. Bruce Ehresman, avian ecologist for the DNR Wildlife Diversity Program, then discussed the Iowa River Corridor Bird Conservation Area (BCA), which includes Otter Creek Marsh (for more information on BCAs, see page 3). Doug Harr,



A young attendee of the platform dedication scans for marsh wildlife through a spotting scope.  
Photo by Pat Schlarbaum

president of Iowa Audubon, played a recording of Sandhill Crane calls so that everyone in attendance could experience the sound (since the cranes on the marsh were being a bit quiet that afternoon!).

Wetlands like Otter Creek Marsh are vital to Sandhill Cranes; sedge meadows, marshes, and other wetlands are where the cranes build their nests and defend their eggs and young from predators. Marshes also provide important

stopover habitat for food along crane migration routes. The Sandhill Crane is not exceptional in its need for wetlands; a variety of birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, fish, and invertebrates depend on such habitat. As wetlands have been drained to make room for urban and agricultural expansion, the continued existence of their unique plant and animal communities are threatened,

along with the critical services—like soaking up flood waters, buffering shorelines from storms, and filtering water—that benefit people and land.

If you have the opportunity to do so, visit the Otter Creek Marsh viewing platform to enjoy a scenic panorama containing a diversity of wildlife sounds and activity.

—Pat Schlarbaum  
*Wildlife Diversity Technician II*



Rainbow Darter  
Photo by  
William D. Schmid

## Species Spotlight: Rainbow Darter

The Species Spotlight has highlighted a variety of taxa over the years, including mammals, reptiles, amphibians, butterflies, and dragonflies. Also under the purview of Wildlife Diversity are non-game fish species. Because non-game fish are often relatively small, people tend to overlook them. Don't let their small size fool you, though—they can be both colorful and interesting, as our Spotlight species, the Rainbow Darter, will demonstrate!

Rainbow Darters get their name from the variety of iridescent red, orange, green, and blue color patterns covering their body. A member of the Perch family, these tiny relatives of Walleye

Darter is most often found in creeks, streams, and small rivers in the northeastern one-third of the state. This fish prefers to inhabit clear, moderate to fast moving water over riffles of gravel and rock. In fact, the Rainbow Darter is considered a bio-indicator of healthy streams, as it doesn't tolerate polluted water well.

Young Rainbow Darters feed primarily on small aquatic insect larvae. As they mature, the adult darters will feed on larger prey, such as small snails, young crayfish, and minnow eggs. Likely predators of the Rainbow Darter are larger fish, such as Burbot, and fish-

eating birds, like the Belted Kingfisher.

In Iowa, Rainbow Darters usually spawn during the month of May, when the water reaches about 60°F. A female Rainbow Darter may deposit between 800 and 1,000 eggs during the several day spawning period. Amazingly, she will only lay three to seven eggs during each spawning act, during which the male fertilizes the eggs. Fertilized eggs fall into spaces between the gravel and hatch within 10 to 12 days.

Because this species is moderately abundant in its range, look for the Rainbow Darter in appropriate habitat throughout northeast Iowa. In particular, they can be found in Trout Run and Bohemian Creek in Winneshiek County and Spring Creek in Mitchell County.

—Natalie Randall  
WDP Outreach Assistant

## MSIM Goes Volunteer (continued)

birds, butterflies, herps, and potentially dragonflies, as well as implementing their own protocols to survey plants and other types of insects. The information collected by these dedicated individuals will not only serve as a valuable resource to Johnson CCB, but will also be added to the MSIM database and contribute to the ongoing efforts of the MSIM program. The volunteers have already documented a number of Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) on the property including the Western Hognose Snake and the Blanding's Turtle, two species that are also listed in Iowa as endangered and threatened, respectively. Needless to say, volunteers, staff of Johnson CCB, all others involved with Ciha Fen, and myself are very excited to see what can be found on this amazing site.

I want to extend my thanks on behalf of the MSIM program to those volunteers who have spent time or will spend time conducting plant and animal

surveys at Ciha Fen as well as all the other volunteers who have assisted with the MSIM program in the past.

Thanks to Bradley Friedhof and the staff of Johnson CCB for contributing information and photographs for this article.

—Tyler Harms  
MSIM Biologist



Western Hognose Snake  
Photo courtesy Johnson CCB

**To find out more about the  
Wildlife Diversity Program or  
to retrieve archived WDP  
Newsletters, visit our website:**

[www.iowadnr.gov/Environment/  
WildlifeStewardship/  
NonGameWildlife.aspx](http://www.iowadnr.gov/Environment/WildlifeStewardship/NonGameWildlife.aspx)

## Last Look

...at chicken! Well, sort of...known as “chicken-of-the-woods”, “chicken mushroom”, or “sulfur shelf”, this striking orange fungus has a reputation for having the meaty flavor and texture of—you guessed it—chicken! Chicken-of-the-woods can be found growing on the trunk or stumps of oak trees in hardwood forests, but be sure to check with an expert on mushroom identification before removing or eating any mushroom or fungus from the environment.



Photo by Shane Patterson

## Events Calendar

### Falcon Field Trip Events

#### **May 4: 5pm-8pm Fish Fry**

Community Center, Harper’s Ferry, IA

#### **May 5: 10am and 2pm Falcon Boat Tours**

Maiden Voyage Tours, Harper’s Ferry boat ramp

For more information about this event, call Pat Schlarbaum (712-330-0526) or Capt. Robert Vavra (563-880-8970)

### Breeding Bird Atlas Blockbusting Events

#### **June 22-24**

Harrison, Monona, Plymouth, Sioux, and Woodbury counties (Sioux City area)

#### **July 6-8**

Cedar, Iowa, Johnson, Muscatine, and Washington counties (Iowa City area)

#### **July 20-22**

Clayton, Delaware, Dubuque, Jackson, and Jones counties (Dubuque area)

For more information about this event, contact BBA coordinator Shane Patterson at [bbacoordinator@iowabirds.org](mailto:bbacoordinator@iowabirds.org)

### Falcon and Osprey Banding

#### **May, June, and July**

Information on specific dates and times will be available soon at [www.iowadnr.gov](http://www.iowadnr.gov) or by calling Pat Schlarbaum (515-432-2823, ext. 114)

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Iowa Dept. of Natural Resources

1436 255th St.

Boone, IA 50036

Phone: (515) 432-2823

Fax: (515) 432-2835

E-mail: [Pat.Schlarbaum@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:Pat.Schlarbaum@dnr.iowa.gov)



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