

[31] From: JFULLER at dentistry-po 2/18/91 7:35AM (2751 bytes: 42 ln)
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Subject: HOTLINE:Iowa 2/18/91

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Iowa Birdline (319)338-9881 for 2/18/91

Most of the reports this week are from southeast Iowa. The Mississippi River is once again shedding its ice, and diving ducks, COMMON MERGANSERS, COMMON GOLDENEYES, and lesser numbers of HOODED MERGANSERS, LESSER SCAUP, REDHEADS, and CANVASBACKS, along with large numbers of gulls, are present around open water as far north as LeClaire. There has been no news the past week about the GYRFALCON in Cerro Gordo County.

In southeast Iowa, a first winter THAYER'S GULL was below Lock & Dam #19 at Keokuk on the 16th, but the MUTE and TUNDRA SWANS which had been at that location several weeks, were not seen. Above the dam, on the 17th, a first winter GLAUCOUS GULL was seen standing on ice by scoping from Rand Park, which is on the bluff. EURASIAN TREE SPARROWS are still north of Burlington, the last report was of one on the 16th. To look for these birds, exit hiway 99 one mile north of town, and go east on Tama Road for 3.2 miles where the best place is the feeder at the Stratton residence. However, they have been found all along the road a half mile either side of the Stratton's. Iowa City's winter resident swans, two TRUMPETER SWANS, and the TUNDRA SWAN were present all last week on the Iowa River at various locations. The last observation was on the 17th when all three were together near Crandic Park along Rocky Shore Drive in Iowa City. Also in Johnson County, the NORTHERN SAW WHET OWL was still present in cedars along the north side of Johnson County Road F-20 about 0.7 miles west of the Hawkeye Wildlife Area headquarters on the 16th.

In central Iowa, a NORTHERN SAW WHET OWL was at the Ledges State Park in Boone County near the nature trail in the Lost Lake area on the 17th. And the RED SHOULDERED HAWK continues in Hardin County with the latest sighting on the 15th where a wooded creek crosses Hardin County Road D-65 about three and a half miles west of Union.

In Wayne County, there were no reported sightings of the SNOWY OWL near Clio this past week. One party searched for the bird on the 13th without success.

Jim Fuller (319)338-3561

IN NEWS TODAY FROM THE NORTH CENTRAL IN
CERRO GORDO COUNTY, AN IMMATURE SNOWY OWL
HAS BEEN SEEN THIS PAST WEEK EARLY MORNING
AND LATE AFTERNOON AND WAS SEEN THIS
MORNING THE 23RD. IT WAS SEEN IN THE FIELD &
ON FENCE & UTILITY POLES ALONG CAROLINA AVENUE
SOUTHWEST OF MASON CITY BETWEEN COUNTY ROAD
S-14 AND B-55. ALSO A PRAIRIE FALCON WAS
OBSERVED A HALF MILE SOUTH OF B-55 ALONG
S-14 ON THE 23RD AND THE WHITE WINGED CROSSBILL WAS
ANOTHER APPEARANCE AT CAROLYN FISCHER'S
FEEDER IN NORTHWEST MASON CITY AT 48
LAKEVIEW COURT. YOU CAN CALL CAROLYN FOR MORE
INFORMATION OR ANY ON THESE SIGHTINGS AT
(515) 423-9909

In Johnson County

THE 3 SWANS, 2 TRUMPETERS AND 1 TUNDRY, WERE STILL PRESENT, BEING IN THE IOWA RIVER AT THE ^{Mrs} BIRDLINE'S HOUSE NORTH OF IOWA CITY ON THE 21ST AND 22ND, AND THEN LATER ON THE 2ND ^{of south of town}

WHERE THERE ARE THOUSANDS OF GULLS AND WATERFOWL PRESENT

★ IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR A BIRDING TRIP THIS WEEKEND, TRY ^{POUL #19 OF} THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER IN EXTREME SOUTHEAST. THE LIGHT IS BEST FROM THE ILLINOIS SHORE IN THE MORNING AND IOWA SIDE IN THE AFTERNOON. TRY THIS ~~same~~ ROUTE. AFTER SCOPING THE WATERFRONT AT FT. MADISON, CROSS THE BRIDGE TO NIOTA ILLINOIS, THEN ^{TAKE} HIGHWAY 96 TO NAUVOO. BETWEEN NAUVOO AND HAMILTON, THERE ARE NUMEROUS PULLOFS ALONG HIGHWAY 96 TO SCOPE FROM. CROSS FROM HAMILTON TO KEOKUK, THEN GO NORTH THROUGH TOWN, STOPPING AT THE FEW OVERLOOKS OF LICK & DON #9. TAKE GRAND AVENUE TO RAND PARK ^{AND SCOPE FROM ABOVE THE DAM} AND THE BLUFF THERE. CONTINUE NORTH ^{ALONG THE RIVER ROAD} TO MONTROSE. THERE ARE NOT AS MANY PLACES TO PULL OFF ALONG THE IOWA SIDE. AT MONTROSE THERE IS A RIVERFRONT PARK AND A ~~PARK~~ ^{REST AREA} NORTH OF TOWN ALONG HIGHWAY 61. MOST OF THE GULLS ARE RING BILLED, WITH SOME NECKED ~~BUT~~ FIRST WINTER GLAUCOUS AND TRAYERS WERE SEEN THIS PAST WEEK. MOST OF THE DUCKS ARE COMMON GOLDENEYE ~~AND~~ COMMON MERGANSERS AND CANVAS BACK, BUT THERE ARE ^{SOME} OTHER SPECIES ^{INCLUDING HOODED} ALSO ^{IF YOU WOULD SEEM} ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE.

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