

NEWS TODAY

THE ALBION CHRISTMAS LIGHT CONTEST AT THE
1ST REPORTED IN WITH 91 SPECIES ^{A CAUTIONARY} INCLUDING,
BETWEE'S BRACKENS AND ONE YOO PHEASANT

THE 2007 EXPERIMENT WAS STILL AT RED ROCK ON
THE 20TH, BUT I'M AROUND THE CHANGE IN WEATHER
WILL NOT BE GOOD FOR ITS HEALTH. THE WESTERN WOODS
WAS ^{ALSO} STILL THERE ABOVE THE DAM ON THE 20TH,

[29] From: JFULLER at dentistry-po 12/17/90 8:32AM (3552 bytes: 55 ln)
To: BIRDCNTR@ARIZVM1.BITNET at INTERNET, JFULLER
Subject: HOTLINE: IOWA 12/17/90

----- Message Contents -----

Iowa Birdline (319)338-9881 for 12/17/90

There was a lot of weekend birding, most of which was associated with Christmas censuses. As always, a number of interesting birds were sighted. All reports but the VARIED THRUSH came from these counts. In the northwest, a VARIED THRUSH at Spencer in Clay County, has been visiting the bird bath and under the sunflower feeder at the home of Jim Bock, 814 W. 10th. You can call him for more information or updates at (712)262-6578.

In south-central Iowa, the Red Rock Christmas count in Marion County on the 16th had a most unusual sighting of an EMPIDONAX FLYCATCHER, probably a LEAST, which was seen and photographed at the Kuyper trail parking lot. Other good birds were a WESTERN GREBE above the dam, a BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE at the cliffs of North Elk Rock State Park, a NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD at Howell Station, 2 first winter GLAUCOUS GULLS, and 2 first winter THAYER'S GULLS below the dam, and another first winter THAYER'S at the Whitebreast area. For more information on any of these birds, call Tim Schantz at (515)828-7943. At the Rathbun Lake count in Appanoose County on the 15th, the best birds were 2 BLACK SCOTERS and 2 HORNED GREBES just above the dam, and LONG EARED and SHORT EARED OWLS.

In the central part of the state, the Saylorville count in Polk County was on the 16th. Among their many outstanding finds were a SWAN (Sp.), GOLDEN EAGLE, 3 first winter BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKES, 1 first winter GLAUCOUS, and 2 first winter THAYER'S GULLS, 6 OWLS, including NORTHERN SAW WHET, SNOW BUNTINGS, BLUE-WINGED TEAL, and GREATER SCAUP. Maybe their best bird was a TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE, which was found on the hillside with small cedar trees south of 146th Street and near the bridge about a quarter mile east of hiway 415. For more information on any of these birds, call Eugene Armstrong at (515)996-2726.

*RED EARED, N. AND
10 RED CROSSBILLS
AT HIWAY 415
AND 100TH ST.*

In the southwest, Shenandoah's census on the 15th netted 56 species, with LONG EARED OWL, COOPER'S HAWK, PIED BILLED GREBE, and REDHEAD the best birds.

In southeast Iowa, Burlington's total on the 15th tied their record of 71 species, with WHITE PELICAN, NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD, and 11 EURASIAN TREE SPARROWS. For more information and directions on the tree sparrows, call Chuck Fuller at (319)753-0710. Iowa City's count on the 16th had 68 species, shattering their old record of 63. Their good birds were a FRANKLIN'S GULL in alternate plumage, WINTER WREN, YELLOW RUMPED WARBLER, and 6 OWL SPECIES including LONG EARED, SHORT EARED, and NORTHERN SAW WHET. For additional information on the birds on this count call Tom Kent at (319)337-5231. That count missed a first winter GLAUCOUS GULL that was seen on the 14th at the end of the Babcock access road at the Coralville Reservoir.

Jim Fuller (319) 338-3561