

IOWA RBA: (319)338-9881 for 10/20/97

Birds Mentioned:

Sabine's Gull
EURASIAN COLLARED DOVE
Lesser Black-backed Gull
Red-tailed Hawk
Golden Eagle
Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow
Harris' Sparrow
LeConte's Sparrow
Peregrine Falcon
Wilson's Phalarope
Cape May Warbler
Carolina Wren

~~To skip the recording and leave a message, just press the star at any time.~~ This week saw sparrows return in abundance. The best birds are SABINE'S GULL and the continuation of EURASIAN COLLARED DOVES in the central, and LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL in the southeast.

In the central in Marion County, a SABINE'S GULL was spotted at the Red Rock Reservoir on the 18th. It was over Whitebreast Bay, as seen from the road leading to the old swim beach, which is now an island. In Poweshiek County, two EURASIAN COLLARED DOVES were still present at Grinnell on the 15th. Unfortunately, ~~one~~ ^{TO THE STATE} ~~A THIRD~~ dove was also found dead. To look for these birds, from hiway 146 at the north edge of Grinnell, go east on 16th Street until you see the country club golf course on the south side of the road, and then listen and look in the next quarter mile. In Marshall County at the hawk watch at Grammer Grove County Park, of the 176 raptors counted on the 19th, 118 were RED-TAILED HAWKS, and one was a GOLDEN EAGLE.

In the southeast in Johnson County, the second year LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL first discovered on the 8th, was still present late in the afternoon on the 19th, at the beach of the West Overlook Area, just above the Coralville Reservoir Dam. It has sometimes been seen at that location early in the morning as well, and it was also found at the Iowa City landfill, which is a mile south of C.R. F-46, about 2 miles west of hiway 218, ~~on the 16th~~. At the Hawkeye Wildlife Area, ten species of SPARROWS, including NELSON'S SHARP-TAILED and HARRIS', were found on the 18th. Along Greencastle Avenue north of the Swan Lake Road, NELSON'S SHARP-TAILED and LECONTE'S SPARROWS were observed on the 19th, and a PEREGRINE FALCON and WILSON'S PHALAROPE were there on the 17th. A late CAPE MAY WARBLER was just south of the Greencastle-Swan Lake Road intersection on the 16th. At Iowa City, Julie Hayek reported a pair of CAROLINA WRENS in her yard on the 16th.

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