

WELCOME TO AN UPDATE OF THE IOWA BIRDLINE FOR  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15 AT                      PM.

TO SKIP THE RECORDING AND LEAVE A MESSAGE, JUST  
PRESS THE STAR AT ANY TIME.

People from all over the state are viewing the ferruginous hawk and great grey owls. They were seen again today in locations previously reported. The ferruginous hawk was also seen near the corner of Eagle and 130th St.

An immature snowy owl was seen in Palo Alto county at the corner of 360th St and 580th Ave. To reach this location, go to the town of Cylinder which is east of Emmetsburg. Go 2 1/2 miles north on 360th and then 5 miles east to the intersection with 580th ave.

A prairie falcon was reported 12 miles west of Sioux Center. It was on top of a high voltage line on B40.

Three northern shrikes were reported, 1 in Sioux Co & 2 in Lyon Co. Snow buntings are abundant in the area. A melanistic rough legged hawk was reported near Rock Valley.

UPDATE: IOWA RBA: (319)338-9881 FOR FEB. 12<sup>TH</sup> AT 7 PM

Birds Mentioned:

Ferruginous Hawk  
GREAT GRAY OWL  
Short-eared Owl  
Oldsquaw  
Red Crossbill  
Northern Saw-whet Owl

To skip the recording and leave a message, just press the star at any time. On the 12th in Cerro Gordo County, the two GREAT GRAY OWLS were still being seen, and have been every day this week, and an immature FERRUGINOUS HAWK was observed northwest of Thornton near the intersection of Dogwood Avenue and 140th Street. In the southeast in Iowa County, a SHORT-EARED OWL was seen at the cemetery in East Amana.

In an update from the 11th in the central, the REDCROSSBILLS were still being seen at the north Ames feeder. Mornings are best, as the birds do not come in after 2 PM. For more information, call Hank Zalatel at (515)382-5427.

In news received the 10th, in the southeast in Lee County on the 8th, on pool #19 of the Mississippi River, an OLDSQUAW was seen from the river road just south of Montrose, and three more OLDSQUAWS were farther south near the old Galland School. In the northwest in Plymouth County, a SAW-WHET OWL was found on the 8th up the main creek at Five Ridges Prairie.

Update of Ia RBA for 2/15 @ 10 AM

*THE WEEK'S REPORT OF MONDAY MORNING FEB 10TH*

IOWA RBA: (319)338-9881 for 2/10/97

Birds Mentioned:

GREAT GRAY OWL  
Snowy Owl  
Ferruginous Hawk  
Red Crossbill  
PINYON JAY  
Northern Goshawk  
Red-breasted Nuthatch  
Northern Shrike  
Northern Saw-whet Owl

~~To skip the recording and leave a message, just press the star at any time.~~ For the second winter in a row, GREAT GRAY OWLS have been found in the state, this time in Cerro Gordo County, where SNOWY OWL and FERRUGINOUS HAWK were also seen last week. Other highlight birds are RED CROSSBILLS in the central and southeast, and the continuation of the PINYON JAY in Boone County.

In the north-central, Pam and Reid Allen discovered a GREAT GRAY OWL in eastern Cerro Gordo County the afternoon of the 8th, and before the day was over a second GREAT GRAY was found in the same area. On the 9th, the owls were seen by many observers at the same location. And it appears the birds may have been there for several weeks. The location is the Clay Banks Forest area, one and a half miles northwest of the intersection of county roads B-43 and S-70, more specifically along 225th Street, a quarter to half a mile west of Wren Avenue. Elsewhere in Cerro Gordo County, an immature SNOWY OWL has been in the area 2-4 miles northwest of Thornton for some time now. On the 6th and 8th, it was spotted along Cardinal Avenue, a quarter mile south of 150th Street. There has also been a FERRUGINOUS HAWK reported in the same area, but it was last sighted on the 3rd. The immature NORTHERN GOSHAWK that has been present for several months was seen again on the 8th in the north end of the Shell Rock River greenbelt area southeast of Rock Falls.

In the central in Boone County, the immature PINYON JAY first discovered November 30th, was still visiting the feeder of Lloyd and Gaylan Crim through the 9th. You can contact the Crims at (515)432-5026. Here are the directions: From hiway 30 east of Boone, go north on hiway 17 for a little over nine miles to 140th Street, where you go west on gravel for a mile and a half, and their home is on the south side of the road at the end of a long lane. In Story County, as of the 9th, there are now thirteen RED CROSSBILLS as well as a RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH at a feeder in north Ames. For more information, call Hank Zalatel at (515)382-5427. In Jasper County, a NORTHERN SHRIKE was at mile marker 3 along hiway 223, three miles east of hiway 330, on the 3rd.

In the southeast in Johnson County, Shirley Geyer, who lives south of Oxford, reports two RED CROSSBILLS paid a brief visit to her feeder on the 1st, but have never returned. In Iowa County, a SAW-WHET OWL was seen on the 8th at the old ice pond area just north of hiway 6, three-quarters of a mile west of Homestead. A permit from the Amana Society business office is required to enter this area.

There were also reports of a large number of birds of prey... (text is mirrored and mostly illegible)

On the 10th of February, a large number of birds of prey... (text is mirrored and mostly illegible)

On the 11th of February, a large number of birds of prey... (text is mirrored and mostly illegible)

On the 12th of February, a large number of birds of prey... (text is mirrored and mostly illegible)

On the 13th of February, a large number of birds of prey... (text is mirrored and mostly illegible)

2/10/97

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UPDATE: IOWA RBA (319)338-9881 for 2/19/97

Birds Mentioned:

GREAT GRAY OWL

Greater Scaup

Greater White-fronted Goose

Prairie Falcon

Peregrine Falcon

Northern Saw-whet Owl

Pine Siskin

Thayer's Gull

On the 19th, in an update, one GREAT GRAY OWL was still present at the eastern Cerro Gordo County location

On the 18th, we had an anonymous report of a GREAT GRAY OWL within the city limits of Des Moines on the 15th, but no other details were provided. In the southeast in Muscatine County, there were 14 waterfowl species above Lock & Dam #16 on the Mississippi River at Muscatine, and they included GREATER SCAUP and WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE, and in Appanoose County, eleven species of ducks were at the Bridgeview area at Lake Rathbun. In the north-central in Cerro Gordo County, a PRAIRIE FALCON was seen northwest of Thornton, specifically two miles west of the intersection of Finch Avenue and 170th Street. In the northeast, a PEREGRINE FALCON was seen on the Firststar Building in downtown CedarRapids.

In news received the 17th, in the northwest in Plymouth County, a SAW-WHET OWL was up the main creek at Five Ridges Prairie, and PINE SISKINS were at the feeder at Stone State Park, just north of Sioux City, both on the 15th. In the southeast in Lee County, a first winter THAYER'S GULL was along the Mississippi River at Montrose on the 16th.

IOWA RBA: (319)338-9881 for 2/17/97

Birds Mentioned:

GREAT GRAY OWL  
FERRUGINOUS HAWK  
Snowy Owl  
Prairie Falcon  
Red Crossbill  
PINYON JAY  
Merlin  
Northern Shrike  
Red-breasted Nuthatch  
Short-eared Owl  
Red-shouldered Hawk  
Boreal Owl (Minnesota)

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Virtually all of the highlight birds this week are raptors, with GREAT GRAY OWL, FERRUGINOUS HAWK, and SNOWY OWL in the north-central, PRAIRIE FALCON and SNOWY OWL in the northwest, and RED CROSSBILL in the central. Although we have not had any reports about the PINYON JAY in Boone County since the 9th, we would assume it is still there. You can call Lloyd and Gaylan Crim for updates on the jay at (515)432-5026.

In the north-central, three GREAT GRAY OWLS have been found in Cerro Gordo County. One to two owls have been seen daily through the 16th at the Clay Banks Forest area. This location is a mile and a half northwest of the intersection of county roads B-43 and S-70, specifically along 225th Street a quarter to a half mile west of Wren Avenue. A third GREAT GRAY was reported from the 10th north of Mason City, just west of the intersection of county road B-20 and Mallard Avenue. The FERRUGINOUS HAWK has also been seen daily this past week northwest of Thornton, most often in the tallest evergreen in an old farmstead near the corner of Dogwood Avenue and 140th Street. Just northwest of there, an immature SNOWY OWL has been found regularly along Cardinal Avenue, just south of 150th Street. The last sighting was on the 15th.

In the northwest, there are three SNOWY OWL reports from Palo Alto County, all on the 15th. Birds were seen east and just west of Emmetsburg, and an immature SNOWY was found near the intersection of 360th Street and 580th Avenue. This location is found by going north from the town of Cylinder for two and a half miles, and then east for five miles. In Sioux County, a PRAIRIE FALCON was seen on the 14th sitting on a high voltage line along county road B-40, twelve miles west of Sioux Center. There has also been a MERLIN in the town of Sioux Center. NORTHERN SHRIKES have been reported from Sioux and Lyon Counties.

In the central in Story County, thirteen RED CROSSBILLS and a RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH were still being observed at a north Ames feeder on the 12th. Mornings are best, and the birds are not normally seen after 2PM. For more information, call Hank Zalatel at (515)382-5427.

In the southeast in Iowa County, a SHORT-EARED OWL was found on the 12th at the cemetery in East Amana.

In the northeast in Black Hawk County, a RED-SHOULDERED HAWK was found on the 15th at George Wyth State Park near the west end of the old oxbow, Lake Fisher.

In Minnesota, a very cooperative BOREAL OWL has been seen daily roosting at a nature center just north of the Twin Cities. For updated information, call the Minnesota RBA at (612)780-8840.

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2/17/97