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Subj: IOWA RBA Update 11/14/98
IOWA RBA (319)338-9881 Update for 11/14/98 @ 6:30 AM

Birds Mentioned:

Red-throated Loon
White-winged Scoter
Eurasian Collared Dove
Western Grebe
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

In news from the 13th in the southwest in Pottawattamie County, a RED-THROATED LOON in basic plumage was seen at the MidAmerican Energy Co. south of Council Bluffs, and there were 3 WHITE-WINGED SCOTERS at Lake Manawa.

In the central in Hardin County, an immature male WHITE-WINGED SCOTER was at the Hubbard Sewage Pond along hiway 65 just south of Hubbard. At Grinnell, 5 EURASIAN COLLARED DOVES were seen in an evergreen tree in the neighborhood near the country club golf course at the north edge of town.

In the southeast in Des Moines County, a WESTERN GREBE was on the Mississippi River just above Lock & Dam #18, and in Marion County. a late BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER was at Elk Rock State Park.

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IOWA RBA (319)338-9881 Update for 11/12/98 @ 9 PM

Birds Mentioned:

WHOOPING CRANE

Black-throated Blue Warbler

After numerous reports the past two days of flocks of SANDHILL CRANES over Iowa, which were probably displaced to the east by the strong westerly winds of the 10th, it shouldn't be a great surprise that a WHOOPING CRANE was reported in the state today. The bird was seen in the central in Polk County, in the area of Jester Park, but soon left the scene headed west.

In the north-central in Cerro Gordo County, a BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER was reportedly visiting a feeder southeast of Mason City on the 8th and 10th.

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Birds Mentioned:

Sandhill Crane
Long-billed Dowitcher
Black-bellied Plover
Dunlin
American Avocet
American Pipit
Lapland Longspur
Northern Harrier
Rough-legged Hawk
Golden Eagle
Short-eared Owl
Merlin
Carolina Wren
Snow Bunting

The past two days were for blackbird, waterfowl and SANDHILL CRANE migration. After the report of a flock of 50 SANDHILL CRANES in southwest Iowa on the 10th, the 11th brought reports from ~~five~~¹² different observers in the northwest, central, and southeast who saw ~~10~~¹⁵ different flocks of SANDHILL CRANES overhead, with the largest being 30 birds in Johnson County.

In other news from the 11th in the central in Marion County, there were still 10 species of shorebirds at the Runnells Wildlife Area, as seen from the overlook along hiway 316. They included LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER, BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER, DUNLIN, and AMERICAN AVOCET, and there were also AMERICAN PIPITS and LAPLAND LONGSPURS there. In Marshall County at the Grammer Grover Park hawk watch, 68 raptor ~~species~~ were seen, with 14 NORTHERN HARRIERS, 4 ROUGH-LEGGED HAWKS, and 2 GOLDEN EAGLES.

In the northwest in Emmet County, a SHORT-EARED OWL was spotted 4 miles northwest of Gruver. In Palo Alto County, a MERLIN was a flyover at Lost Island Lake, and in Dickinson County, a CAROLINA WREN was found at Gull Point Park, while there seemed to be numerous LAPLAND LONGSPURS and some SNOW BUNTINGS, as well as a number of ROUGH-LEGGED HAWKS and NORTHERN HARRIERS in that part of the state.

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*IN THE SW
AMONG THE NUMEROUS RAPTORS SEEN AT HITCHCOCK NATURE
CENTER IN PUTNAM COUNTY WAS A PRARIE FALCON,
AND SEVERAL ROSS' GEESE WERE ALSO SEEN THERE.*

*IN THE NE, AN Linn Co, A ROSS'S GOOSE WAS
AMONG THE NUMEROUS WATERFOWL AT PLEASANT
CREEK RECREATION AREA NORTH OF PALO.*

A PRARIE FALCON WAS SEEN, AND

IOWA RBA (319)338-9881 Revised Update for 11/9/98 @ 9 PM

Birds Mentioned:

Red-necked Grebe
Long-billed Dowitcher
Pectoral Sandpiper
Eastern Phoebe
Black-bellied Plover
Dunlin
Brewer's Blackbird
California Gull

In news received the 9th, from the northeast in Allamakee County, a RED-NECKED GREBE was seen on the 7th on the Mississippi River at Heytman's Landing.

In the central, in Hamilton County, LONG-BILLED DOWITCHERS and PECTORAL SANDPIPERS were at Gordon's Marsh on the 8th, and in Boone County a late EASTERN PHOEBE was spotted at Madrid on the 6th.

In the southeast in Appanoose County, BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER, DUNLIN, and BREWER'S BLACKBIRDS were observed at Lake Rathbun on the 7th, and in Marion County, the first year CALIFORNIA GULL was reported again from below the Red Rock Reservoir Dam on the 6th.

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Birds Mentioned:

Pine Siskin
Lesser Black-backed Gull
Common Black-headed Gull
Surf Scoter
White-winged Scoter
Prairie Falcon
California Gull
Red-throated Loon
Pacific Loon
Golden Eagle
Lapland Longspur
Tundra Swan
Horned Grebe
Iceland/Thayer's complex Gull
Eared Grebe
Common Snipe
American Golden Plover
Pectoral Sandpiper
Dunlin
American Pipit
Brewer's Blackbird
Northern Goshawk
Long-billed Dowitcher
Canvasback

It appears this is a sparse year for winter finches and other invaders. Even PINE SISKINS are few, although we did have reports from Ames and Burlington this week. The week's highlights are LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL and COMMON BLACK-HEADED GULL in the northwest, SURF SCOTER, WHITE-WINGED SCOTER, LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL, and PRAIRIE FALCON in the central, CALIFORNIA GULL and RED-THROATED LOON in the southeast, and PACIFIC LOON in the northeast.

In the northwest in Dickinson County, an adult LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL was seen on the 8th at the Spring Run area near the county landfill, and two BLACK-HEADED GULLS were at the north end of Big Spirit Lake along the grade on the Iowa-Minnesota border on the 8th. In Sioux County, an immature GOLDEN EAGLE was observed on the 6th soaring for an hour over Oak Grove Park, and flocks of LAPLAND LONGSPURS are reportedly widespread in Sioux County.

In the central in Jasper County, birds seen at the south end of Rock Creek Lake on the 5th included 3 immature/female type SURF SCOTERS, an immature male WHITE-WINGED SCOTER, 6 TUNDRA SWANS, and 4 HORNED GREBES. In Polk County, a first year LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL was seen on the 4th on the rocky island below the Saylorville Reservoir Dam, while on that same rocky island on the 6th, a first year gull that was quite light was reported as a possible ICELAND/THAYER'S complex GULL. If you see this bird, comments would be welcome. Both EARED and HORNED GREBES were at Big Creek Lake on the 4th. In

Story County, a PRAIRIE FALCON was observed on the 8th catching and making a meal of a COMMON SNIFE at a pond which is reached by going south two miles from the Elwood Street exit of hiway 30 in Ames, and then west a mile and a half. Also seen at that location this past week were AMERICAN GOLDEN PLOVER, PECTORAL SANDPIPER, DUNLIN, AMERICAN PIPITS, LAPLAND LONGSPURS, and BREWER'S BLACKBIRD. In Madison County, a NORTHERN SHRIKE was sighted at Badger Creek State Park on the 2nd.

In the southeast in Marion County, the first year CALIFORNIA GULL was seen once again on the 4th at the Red Rock Reservoir, this time below the dam, while on the 5th, a NORTHERN GOSHAWK was observed flying over the Whitebreast Recreation Area. In Des Moines County, a RED-THROATED LOON discovered on the 6th on the Mississippi River just above Lock & Dam #18 was still present on the 8th. The bird was on the Iowa side of the river, but viewing access is only from the Illinois side. In Johnson County, along the Babcock Access Road at the Hawkeye Wildlife Area last week, there were DUNLIN, LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER, AMERICAN PIPIT, and LAPLAND LONGSPUR. At the S & G Quarry along the Sand Road at the south edge of Iowa City, up to 8 HORNED GREBES have been seen as late as the 8th.

In the northeast in Linn County, two PACIFIC LOONS were spotted at Pleasant Creek Recreation Area north of Palo on the 5th. In Allamakee County, there are now an estimated 500 TUNDRA SWANS in ~~the~~ their traditional fall staging area on pool #9 of the Mississippi River in the Wexford area north of Harper's Ferry, and which is reached from Red Oak Road. There is also a large concentration of CANVASBACKS in the Heytman's Landing area. Even greater numbers of swans are farther north between Wisconsin and Minnesota.

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Subj: IOWA RBA Update 11/10/98
IOWA RBVA (319)338-9881 Update for 11/10/98 @ 10:30 PM

Birds Mentioned:
Sandhill Crane

On the 10th in the southwest in Harrison County, a flock of 50 SANDHILL
CRANES landed around a pond which is located about two miles southwest
of Modale.

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11/9/98

of Model:

CHANGES listed around 11/9/98
On the 10th in the south-west corner of the 20' square

2nd/3rd Circle
2nd/3rd Circle

10MVA DAVE KILLMAN

2nd/3rd Circle AM AU

10 OTTUMWA
WETLAND EAST OF BYPASS