



Rare

Abb. R.

Species that will be seen in suitable habitat one a year or less.

Accidental

Abb. A

Species not native to Iowa and seen in the state only at long intervals of time.

Explanatory notes

Space is provided on the form for explanatory notes which may be necessary provided the definitions given do not fully cover the status of the species in the locality.



Chas. A. Stewart  
Gulf Haven Motor Court  
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February 3 1950.

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Mrs Merl Jones Ledges State Park Boone.  
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Fred Hall Public museum Davenport.

Gentlemen:

Mr Johnson has appointed you gentlemen on a committee for the purpose of preparing a revised check list of the birds of Iowa. This is to be the work of the I.O.U. The writer has been appointed editor and chairman.

Previous check lists have been made out of date by the birds themselves who have materially changed their ranges in the state. The best way to bring the ranges up to date is a survey of the bird population by members of the I.O.U.

A check of the membership shows it impossible to make records by counties but in spotting the membership on a state map I find that good coverage can be obtained by sections such as north west, west central, south west, north central, central south central, north east, east central and south east.

Inclosed you will find suggested forms to be used in making this survey. I am not particularly pleased with the frequency definitions shown on this form, but to use rare, uncommon and common does not express shades of population frequency well enough to be of value. Perhaps you can suggest a better terminology.

After the reports are in the writer will have comply for the areas mentioned and question any doubtful reports. The historical records and rare bird records must also be checked by the writer for inclusion.

When completed this check list will be about the size of Anderson's Birds of Iowa. No attempt will be made to give descriptions or write stories about them as this is certainly not part of a check list, neither will any attempt be made to show sub-species as they can not be identified by sight. Also the writer will have no part in perpetuating tri-nominal designations.

This brief outline and the forms inclosed will give an idea of what I have in mind and I am offering this to the committee with a request for suggestions.

Sincerely yours  
Chas. A. Stewart

After March the first please reply to the address below

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