

Friday, March 25 at 6:00PM

In Manona County at South Blue Lake on the 24th were six **SNIPE**, two **GREAT -TAILED GRACKLES**, four goose species including 17 **ROSS' GEESE** and thousands **GULLS**.

The **VARIED THRUSH** is becoming seen more regularly again north of Iowa City.

And for the week's report:

The waterfowl migration continues into all parts of the state, and the Bluebirds gather in Central Iowa. The week's highlights are **MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRD** in Greene County on the 19th, **ICELAND GULL** at Roberts Creek Lake at the Red Rock Reservoir on the 17th, and **VARIED THRUSH** near Iowa City on the 23rd, 24th, and 25th..

In the **Central** in Greene County, the male **MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRD** was seen on the 19th southeast of Jefferson. To look for this bird, from county road E-57, go north on county road P-30 for two and a half miles, and then west on gravel, looking along that road and along the first road that runs north. **RUSTY** and **BREWER'S BLACKBIRDS** were in the area as well as a **PEREGRINE FALCON**, **LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE**, three **BALD EAGLES**, and a fly-over of **SNOW GEESE**. About twelve **EASTERN BLUEBIRDS** were also seen in the immediate area. Also in the central On the 15th in Hardin County, six apparently untagged **TRUMPETER SWANS** were along the hiway south of Alden. Eight duck species were seen at the gravel pit north of Ames along Hiway 69 on the 20th.

In the **South Central**: In Marion County, a first year **ICELAND GULL** was on the beach at Roberts Creek Lake. It was seen again on the morning of the 17th. In Madison County, a **NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD** was east of Eugene and Eloise Armstrong's place. You can call them-for directions at (515)996-2726. In the Rathbun Lake area on the 20th: one **HORNED GREBE**, 20 **AMERICAN PELICANS**, 2 **CORMORANTS**, one **YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER**, **TREE SWALLOWS** and three **LOGGERHEAD SHRIKES**.

In the **West Central**: In Manona County at South Blue Lake on the 18th were 14 duck species and three goose species including 3 **WHITE-FRONTED GEESE** and thousands of **SNOW GEESE**. In Ida County on the 20th at Moore Head Park there was an early **YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER**, **FOX AND SWAMP SPARROWS**, and a **HARLAN'S HAWK**.

In the **NorthEast** On the 13th in Bremer County at the Hay Access of the Wapsi River 3 miles SE of Tripola there were two **LONG-EARRED OWLS** which have been present for several weeks. On the 18th at Lost Island Lake in Palo Alto County there was a fly-over of about 200 **SNOW GEESE**. Also in Bremer County at Sweet Marsh on the 19th were seven duck species, some **Eastern Bluebirds** and a few **Bald Eagles**.

In the **SouthEast** in Johnson County, the male **VARIED THRUSH** that was not seen between March 9th and March 19th was again seen on the 20th, 23rd, 24th, and 25th in the yard of Jim and Sharon Scheib, 10 Longview Knoll, just north of Iowa City. While this bird has been present since January 15, it was being seen less frequently since the loss of the snow cover, but seemed somewhat more tolerant of human activity on the 23rd. It has been coming to the ground below the pole feeders on the west side of the rear of the house between 7:15 and 8:00 a.m. Jim can be reached at 319-337-5206. On the 23rd at the Hawkeye Wildlife Area in Johnson County there were 13 duck species on Swan Lake and two Peregrine Falcons were seen flying north at F28 between Swan Lake and Rte 380.

