

Fuller, Jim

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Sent: Sunday, January 04, 1998 9:14 PM
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Subject: IOWA RBA: 1/5/97

IOWA RBA: (319)338-9881 for 1/5/97

Birds Mentioned:

ROSS' GULL (Gone)
Snowy Owl
White-winged Crossbill
Prairie Falcon
EURASIAN COLLARED DOVE
Glaucous Gull
Lesser Black-backed Gull
Thayer's Gull
Merlin
Golden-crowned Kinglet
Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Eastern Bluebird
Yellow-rumped Warbler
Swamp Sparrow
Killdeer
Northern Saw-whet Owl
Common Redpoll
Great Blue Heron
Common Snipe
Long-eared Owl
Carolina Wren
Winter Wren
Eurasian Tree Sparrow
Brown Thrasher
American White Pelican
Black-crowned Night Heron

*AND FOR THE WEEK'S REPORT OF MONDAY MORNING,
JANUARY 5TH.*

To skip the recording and leave a message, just press the star at any time. Last week's highlight, the ROSS' GULL at Council Bluffs, has apparently departed, with the last sighting on the 31st. Last week seven SNOWY OWL reports were received, with five in Wright County, and one each in Hamilton and Scott Counties, and all sightings occurred between December 24-26. It is interesting that there have been no subsequent sightings. The WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL irruption continues unabated. These birds seem to be very widespread in the state, and are most often being found in cemeteries and other grounds with hemlock trees. The week's top birds include PRAIRIE FALCON in the northwest, EURASIAN COLLARED DOVE and GLAUCOUS GULL in the central, and LESSER BLACK-BACKED and THAYER'S GULLS in the southeast.

In the northwest in Clay County, a PRAIRIE FALCON was a flyover at Wanata State Park near Peterson on the 1st. In Woodbury County, one or two MERLINS have been regularly seen at Graceland Cemetery in Sioux City. The best time to see them is around 4:30 PM in the south part of the cemetery. There are also 40-60 WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILLS, as well as GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLETS in the cemetery.

In the central in Poweshiek County, two EURASIAN COLLARED DOVES were sighted on the 2nd at Grinnell, sitting on utility wires along 16th Avenue at the

west edge of the country club golf course. To reach this area, from hiway 146 at the north edge of Grinnell, go east on 16th Avenue. In Polk County, a first year GLAUCOUS GULL was just above the dam at the Saylorville Reservoir on the 2nd. In Marshall County on the 3rd, 13 WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILLS were at a cemetery in Marshalltown which is along N. Center Road. They were in hemlocks near the War Veterans monument. In Carroll County, the Carroll CBC had 41 species on the 1st, with RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET, EASTERN BLUEBIRD, and two WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILLS in the Carroll Cemetery. The best birds on the Boone County CBC held on the 1st were YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER, SWAMP SPARROW, KILLDEER, and SAW-WHET OWL, which was in a cedar grove south of the E-57 bridge over the Des Moines River. For more information on the owl, call Hank Zalatel at (515)382-5427. In Story County, WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILLS and COMMON REDPOLLS were observed several times last week in the Nevada Cemetery, which is along old hiway 30 at the west edge of town.

In the southeast in Marion County, an adult LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL was above the Red Rock Reservoir Dam, and at least two first-year THAYER'S GULLS were below the dam on the 2nd. In Iowa County, the best birds on the Amana CBC were GREAT BLUE HERON, COMMON SNIFE, 30 WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILLS in the East Amana Cemetery, and three SAW-WHET OWLS in the old ice pond area which is along the north side of hiway 6, three-quarters of a mile west of Homestead. On the 4th, a LONG-EARED OWL was found in a pine grove northwest of the intersection of hiways 151 and 220 at Main Amana. A permit is required to enter Amana Society property, and is available from the Amana Society business office in Main Amana. In Des Moines County, 6 WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILLS were at Aspen Grove Cemetery in Burlington on the 2nd. Other birds seen in the Burlington area on the 1st included CAROLINA WREN, WINTER WREN, EURASIAN TREE SPARROW, and a wintering BROWN THRASHER. There was also a WHITE PELICAN at Lock & Dam #18 on the Mississippi River north of Burlington on the 1st. In Johnson County, WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILLS have been reported in hemlock trees at four locations in Iowa City last week: on the west campus of the University of Iowa north of the Quadrangle Dormitory, along Howell Street south of Kirkwood, along Court Street between Summit and Burlington, and at Oakland Cemetery. In Scott County, 20 WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILLS were at Fairmount Cemetery along Rockingham Road in southwest Davenport on the 30th.

In the northeast in Linn County, the second BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON reported in the state in the past two weeks was an immature bird found at Cedar Lake in Cedar Rapids on the 2nd. There are always a number of unusual waterfowl for winter on Cedar Lake.

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