

Hensinkveld

3-4-82

Dear Tom,

We have some Winter observations to report for the S.O.U. Field Reports.

On Dec. 29 there was still a Great Blue Heron at Rathbun Lake. This was seen by Bill Hensinkveld.

There has been quite an influx of Pine Siskin, Common Redpoll, and Purple Finch at feeders. Some Red-breasted Nuthatches have also frequented feeders.

During Jan. + Feb. we had Tree Sparrows coming into our Feeder as well as Lapland Longspurs.

On Feb. 22 an Am. Woodcock was observed by both of us. On Feb. 25 a Harris Sparrow was also observed. Both of these were in our own yard. We are near an overgrown pasture with some moist woodland area and a drainage ditch.

Red winged black birds were seen in fair numbers on Feb. 27 and on

Hensick 19

Feb. 28 E. Meadowlark were seen
and heard singing.

No. Snowy Owls or Evening Grosbeaks
this Winter in our area. ~~After~~

Hope this information is useful
to you.

Very truly yours,
Bill + Marjorie
Hensick

Oh-yes - we had many more crows
in the area than previous winters.

840 South Park

Centerville IA 52544

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? Oregon Junco How many? oneLocation? South and west of RockBluff Road near Ottumwa, IowaType of habitat? Gravel road with many weeds and old pasture nearby.When? date(s): 12-19-81 time: 8:45 A.M to 9:00 A.MWho? your name and address: Marjorie Heusinkveld, 840 S. Park, Centerville, Iaothers with you: Bill Heusinkveld - same addressothers before or after you: unknown

Describe the bird(s) including only what you observed. Include size, shape, details of all parts (bill, eye, head, neck, back, wing, tail, throat, breast, belly, under tail, legs, feet). Also mention voice and behavior.

N. ~~W~~ Junco size, yellow bill, dark eye, dark brown hood coming down over throat and upper breast. Rusty brown back with rusty ~~srea~~ along sides of very white belly. Yellowish ~~feet~~. Broad white ~~edges~~ edges on tail. He was not calling at the time. He was with a mixed flock of tree sparrows and N. Juncos. He was feeding along ~~xx~~ edge of road on weeds and then came into middle of road for very clear view.

Similar species and how eliminated:

Similar to N. Junco, but the dark brown hood, rusty brown back and rusty sides declared him to be different

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? no

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment:

Bright sunlight at approx. 50 feet with naked eye and binoculars.

Previous experience with species and similar ones: Observed Oregon Junco in Arizona in ~~xxx~~ Feb., 1979

References and persons consulted before writing description: Field notes

How long before field notes made? at time of this form completed? 2 days
observation

MAIL TO: T. H. Kent, Field Reports Editor, 211 Richards Street, Iowa City IA 52240