

Upda

MIXE NUVLIX REPORTED  
ON THE 9<sup>TH</sup> IN THE NORTHWEST IN WRIGHT COUNTY, A BROWN  
THRASHER AT THE ISAAC WACTON AREA EAST OF HIGHWAY 17, AND  
WHICH IS EAST OF RENWICK, AND THERE ARE LARGE FLOCKS OF  
SNOW BUNTINGS IN THAT AREA AS WELL.

IOWA RBA UPDATE: 1/8/96

BIRDS MENTIONED:

Long-eared Owl  
Short-eared Owl  
Red-Shouldered Hawk  
Common Redpoll  
Northern Saw-whet Owl  
Oldsquaw

On the 8th in the southeast in Iowa County at the Amana Colonies, LONG-EARED and SHORT-EARED OWLS were in a pine grove southeast of the visitor's center, and an adult RED-SHOULDERED HAWK was along hiway 151 about a quarter mile south of the Iowa River bridge. In Johnson County, numerous COMMON REDPOLLS are visiting feeders at the home of Paul and Teresa Shuff northeast of North Liberty. They can be reached at (319)626-6298. In an update, the SAW-WHET OWL was still at its F-20-Greencastle Avenue location, and in another update, the OLDSQUAW was still at Cedar Lake in Cedar Rapids.

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Welcome to an update of the Birdline of the Iowa Ornithologist's Union  
for \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock.

**Southeast:** On 1/13 Dave Conrads reports sighting an immature golden eagle about 5 miles W of West Branch. It was along X40, 2 miles N of the intersection of X40 and F44. It was first spotted in trees on the E side of the road and then in some conifer trees on the west side. Also seen in the area were 17 bald eagles (8 immature), 2 rough legged hawks, 14 redtails, 1 dark morph buteo, 4 kestrels, and 70-100 wild turkeys.

Near Rochester a rosebreasted grosbeak was seen at the feeder of Deanna Nicholson. She lives 2 miles north of the Atalissa exit on I-80.

In other reports on the 13th the oldsquaw was still seen at Cedar Lake. The saw whet owl was still in the same place NW of the intersection of Greencastle & F20. Eight long-eared owls were SE of Greencastle and Swan Lake. In Iowa County, 4 saw whets were at the Ice Pond NW of Homestead. Three long eared owls were in a pine grove SE of the visitor's center.

**Northwest;** In O'Brien Co. in a report on the 13th, a male white-winged crossbill was found in Eastlawn Cemetery in Sheldon. The cemetery is located on the east side of Sheldon about 1/2 mi. S of the high school. The crossbill was in the tope of spruce trees along with 50+ pine sisskins, red breasted nuthatches and about 40 redpolls.

In Ida County a saw whet owl was reported at Cross Creek which is south of Battle Creek.

**Central:** There were numerous waterfowl reported below the Red Rock dam in central Iowa--approx 170 bald eagles, 1 pelican, 1 merlin, 19 kingfishers, 2000 mallards along with about 20 black ducks and a few goldeneyes and common mergansers, 16 Great blue herons, and 3500 Canada geese.

IOWA RBA (319)338-9881 for 1/8/96

BIRDS MENTIONED:

Common Redpoll  
Pine Siskin  
Great Black-backed Gull  
Lesser Black-backed Gull  
Glaucous Gull  
Thayer's Gull  
Iceland Gull  
Varied Thrush  
White-winged Crossbill  
Northern Saw-whet Owl  
Eurasian Tree Sparrow  
Lapland Longspur  
Snow Bunting  
Wood Duck  
Northern Pintail  
American Wigeon  
Northern Shoveler  
Mallard  
Canada Goose  
Hooded Merganser  
American Coot  
Pied-billed Grebe  
Horned Lark

*THE WEEK'S REPORT OF MONDAY MORNING, JANUARY 8*

It is safe to say by now that this is an invasion year in the state for COMMON REDPOLLS, in contrast to last winter when none were reported. PINE SISKINS numbers are also way up this winter. The week's best birds are five unusual GULL species, GREAT BLACK-BACKED, LESSER BLACK-BACKED, GLAUCOUS, THAYER'S, and ICELAND, plus VARIED THRUSH in the southeast, WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL in the northwest, and OLDSQUAW in the northeast.

In the southeast, a real bonanza of rare gulls can be found along the Mississippi River in Scott County, primarily from above Lock & Dam #14 near the I-80 bridge to below Lock & Dam #15 in downtown Davenport. On the 7th, at Lock & Dam #15, there were adult LESSER BLACK-BACKED, and first-year THAYER'S and ICELAND GULLS. In the previous two days, adult GREAT BLACK-BACKED, adult and first-year GLAUCOUS, and an adult of the THAYER'S-ICELAND complex were also seen. In Johnson County, Bernard Mellecker, who lives south of Hills, reported a male VARIED THRUSH was seen briefly in his yard on December 29th and January 6th. On the north side of the Coralville Reservoir, a NORTHERN SAW-WHET OWL was in cedar trees about a hundred yards northwest of the intersection of county road F-20 and Greencastle Avenue on the 4th. In Muscatine County, as many as 30 EURASIAN TREE SPARROWS were at a feeder near Muscatine. Take hiway 61 bypass south, and at Sampson Street, go west a half mile to the Banks residence at 2393 Mittman Road. In Appanoose County, a flock of 30 COMMON REDPOLLS was at Lake Rathbun in the Island View Area along the road to Dedication Point on the 2nd.

In the northwest in Sac County, an immature WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL was at

the cemetery in Wall Lake on the 7th. In Sioux County, large flocks of up to a thousand LAPLAND LONGSPURS and SNOW BUNTINGS were northwest of Sioux Center on the 2nd, and at Winterfeld Park in Rock Valley, waterfowl there that are unusual in the winter included WOOD DUCK, NORTHERN PINTAIL, AMERICAN WIGEON, and NORTHERN SHOVELER.

In the northeast in Linn County, among the hundreds of MALLARDS and CANADA GEESE at Cedar Lake in Cedar Rapids on the 6th, there was also a female OLDSQUAW, a number of HOODED MERGANSERS, an AMERICAN COOT, a WOOD DUCK, and at least four PIED-BILLED GREBES.

In the central in Hamilton County, Blaine Kloppenborg now has a dozen COMMON REDPOLLS at his feeder at 316 West Curve Drive in Webster City, and also reports that REDPOLLS are at a number of other feeders in that area.

In the southwest, large mixed flocks of HORNED LARKS, LAPLAND LONGSPURS, and SNOW BUNTINGS were seen on the 5th in Harrison County near DeSoto NWR, and in Fremont County near Percival.

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SIOM VPIITNES were seen on the 25th of January 1996 and in  
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rebots that REDFOITS are a...  
REDFOITS at the school of 316...  
in the center of Hamilton County...

1/18/96

DUCK' and at night...  
OGGOSONVAL' a number of HONORABLE...  
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in the northwest in that county...

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Center on the 25th and...  
throughout...  
the ceremony in that year on the 25th...