

IN NEWS WE HAVE RECEIVED ABOUT THE GREAT GRAY OWL,
IT WAS SEARCHED FOR THE MORNING OF THE 24TH,
~~AND IT WAS~~ WITH NO SUCCESS AND WE HAD NO REPORTS
EITHER WAY ON THE 23RD. SO THE LAST KNOWN
SIGHTING OCCURRED ON THE 22ND, WHEN IT WAS
NEAR THE CABLE IN ^{AT 9:30 AM} THE MORNING, AND A HALF TO
3/4 MILE NW OF THE CABLE FROM 4:30-5:30 PM

IOWA RBA: 2/19/96

BIRDS MENTIONED:

GREAT GREY OWL
HOARY REDPOLL
Snowy Owl
White-winged Crossbill
Northern Shrike
Mallard
Canada Goose
Wood Duck
Pied-billed Grebe
Greater Scaup
Lesser Scaup
Ring-necked Duck
Hooded Merganser
Pine Siskin
Common Redpoll
Rough-legged Hawk
Greater White-fronted Goose
Long-eared Owl
Northern Saw-whet Owl
Short-eared Owl

The GREAT GREY OWL in Butler County has been seen again. Other highlights are SNOWY OWL and WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL in the northwest, and HOARY REDPOLLS in Johnson and Worth Counties. The HOARY REDPOLL at Ann Johnson's feeder in Warren County has not been seen now since the 12th.

In the northeast in Butler County, the GREAT GREY OWL was sighted again at Big Marsh at dusk on the 17th, and early the morning of the 18th. Here are the directions: From hiway 14 about six miles north of Parkersburg, go west on county road C-51 for three miles, then north on Jay Avenue for one mile, and finally go back east on a Level B road for a mile and a half to where there is a cable across the road. The owl was seen about two hundred yards north of the cable, essentially in the same area that it was sighted last weekend. There was also a NORTHERN SHRIKE along the Level B Road. In Linn County, at Cedar Lake in Cedar Rapids, among the hundreds of MALLARDS and CANADA GEESE on the 18th, there were also WOOD DUCK, PIED-BILLED GREBE, both SCAUP species, RING-NECKED DUCK, and HOODED MERGANSER. In Worth County, large flocks of COMMON REDPOLLS were seen on the 18th by a group of Mason City birders in the towns of Kensett and Northwood, and two birds were picked out as HOARY REDPOLL candidates. For more information, you can call Curt Nelson at (515)696-5600.

IN PALO ALTO COUNTY *EAST*
In the northwest, we have had a belated report of a SNOWY OWL north of Graettinger on the 9th. In O'Brien County, three WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILLS were with PINE SISKINS and COMMON REDPOLLS in the cemetery on the east side of Sheldon on the 18th. In Pocahontas County, Ron Harms of Laurens has banded 230 COMMON REDPOLLS in a week, and reports there are hundreds of REDPOLLS in the area. In Lyon County, *LARGE NUMBERS OF COMMON REDPOLLS AND* two ROUGH-LEGGED HAWKS were seen along the Big

Sioux River on the 18th. At Blue Lake in Monona County on the 18th, there was a GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE and seven species of ducks. In Winnebago County, a NORTHERN SHRIKE was near Elk Creek Marsh on the 18th.

In the southeast in Johnson County, the immature HOARY REDPOLL has returned along with COMMON REDPOLLS to Ken Lowder's feeder. Ken lives on Tree Farm Lane north of Iowa City, and can be reached at (319)351-1207. Seven LONG-EARED OWLS were in a cedar grove about a quarter mile southwest of the intersection of Greencastle Avenue and the Swan Lake Road on the 17th, and the SAW-WHET OWL was seen again in a cedar tree about a hundred yards northwest of the intersection of county road F-20 and Greencastle Avenue. In Iowa County, at the Amana Colonies on the 18th, two SAW-WHET OWLS were at the old ice pond area about a mile west of Homestead, and three SHORT-EARED OWLS were in the pine grove southeast of the visitor's center. To enter either of these areas, a permit is required from the Amana Society *business office.*

In the central in Boone County, a SAW-WHET OWL was seen on the 18th at Ledges State Park, in a cedar tree on the bluff side of the Lost Lake Trail.

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