

Clinton BC

Thayer's Gull

12-23-96

Kelly J. McDay

I observed this first year bird sitting on the ice with many Herring and several Ring-billed Gulls immediately above Lock 13. The bird was intermediate in size between the Herring and Ring-bills. The bird was always observed sitting. The primaries were not as dark as those of the Herring. The back was lighter and more iridescent and scaly in appearance as compared to the Herring Gulls. The bill was completely dark and the eye was dark with a darkish smudge around the eye. The bird was about 100 feet away. I observed it with Leica Ultra 10x42 binoculars and a Bushnell Spacemaster 20-45x spotting scope. The light conditions were poor as it was foggy, however the bird was very close.

Davenport CBC 12-22-96

Chukar - same site as previous years -

2 seen - 6 more in area - N.W. Davenport -

Mrs. J. Decker

Davenport @ Quad Cities

Thayer's Gull

12-22-96

Kelly J. McKay

I observed the first year bird foraging at Lock 14 at about 12:30 with many Herring and several Ring-billed Gulls. The bird was slightly smaller than the Herring and larger than the Ring-bills. The bird was always seen flying. Primaries were whitish below and darker than mantle on top. However, the primary and secondary tips were not as dark as those of the Herring. The bird had a brownish gray tail band, not as dark as those of the Ring-bills. The bill appeared to be all dark. The light was adequate. I ~~observed~~ observed the bird at about 250 yards using Leica Ultra 10x42 binoculars and a Bushnell Spacemaster 20-45x Spotting Scope. ^{From L.}

Thayer's Gull 12-22-96 Lock 15 - Davenport
seen from IA. Adult, foraging with Herring Gulls below the roller dam. Range varied 100-250m west - 0.6. About same size as Herring's - primaries showed more white. Upon close scrutiny the two outer primaries had large white "windows". The head appeared a bit smaller than that of the nearby Herring - we could not pick up eye color. We relocated the bird easily by the large amount of white on the wing tips.

~~10x40 zoom binoculars~~ Pete Petersen + Walter Zuurdeeg

Seen at 12:30 PM, same time as obs. 0.5 ft min. at 1/4

Greater Scaup - 12-22-96 pair - along Miss. R. at Alcoa Plant. ♂ sleeping, ♀ had wide white area around bill. Faint light brown spot below & belted eye, very heavy bill, heavy knob, just slightly smaller than nearby hen

Red head - range about 150mi - Kona scope - 40-50x. O.C. Walt Zuurdeeg, Peter + Marlon Petersen