

117 Lake Park Blvd.  
Fairmont, MN 56031

Thomas Kent  
IOU Seasonal Report Editor  
211 Richards St.  
Iowa City, IA 52246

1998

Dear Thomas Kent:

I saw a Snowy Owl in Emmet County on March 17. I do not know if the IOU wants all records of this species - if you need documentation I can supply a 35mm slide. Since I am writing this letter and since both shrike species seem to be uncommon to rare in Iowa I will mention that there was (or is ) an unidentified shrike at Goose Lake WMA in Kossuth County. The shrike was first seen on Mar 15 and was still present during my last visit on Mar 18. There was at least one Northern Shrike in this WMA during early March last year. This same WMA had two Greater-White Fronted Geese on Mar 14 this seemed like a fairly early date for this species. A male Greater Scaup was present in Iowa Lake WMA, Emmet County Mar 21. This Scaup was obviously larger than the Lesser Scaup which it was swimming with; had a green head sheen while the lessers around it had a purple sheen; had a rounder, less 'peaked' head shape; and had a slightly different shade of color on the flanks. I was unable to get a good look at the bill on the Scaup. I hope that these observations are of use to you.

Sincerely,



Brad Bolduan