

DETAILS FOR UNUSUAL BIRD SIGHTING

SPECIES: Glaucous Gull

LOCATION: Mississippi River...Lock & Dam #14

DATE: January 5, 1992 (11:40-45PM)

OBSERVER: Jim Fuller, 6 Longview Knoll, NE, Iowa City, Iowa, 52240. Others: Jane Fuller and Carol Thompson.

DETAILS: This bird was standing on backwater ice above the lock. It was with Ring-billed and Herring Gulls. It was much bigger than the Ring-billeds, and noticeably larger than the Herrings as well. It was an adult bird, with very light gray folded wing and back. Otherwise, it was white, including the ends of the folded wing. The yellow bill had a single red spot toward the tip of the lower mandible. The bird also had a very flat head, as compared to the heads of the other two gull species nearby. The legs were pink and the eye was light.