

DETAILS OF UNUSUAL BIRD SIGHTING

SPECIES: Black-legged kittiwake (First winter)

DATE: 12/25/90 and 1/1/91

LOCATION: Below dam at Red Rock Reservoir (Marion County, Iowa)

OBSERVER: Jim Fuller, 6 Longview Knoll, RR#6, Iowa City, Iowa, 52240.

DETAILS: This was a smaller gull. The only size comparison was with an ivory gull, and it was approximately the same size. Features noted were a thin, black bill and black legs, a dark spot directly behind the eye, and a dark band on the back of the neck. Also the standing bird had an irregular dark band horizontal across the folded wing. In flight two notable features were dark bands forming an M pattern on the two wings together, and a slightly forked tail with a terminal dark band.