

Babs & Loren Padelford
1405 Little John Rd.
Bellevue, NE 68005

Documentation of Black-legged Kittiwake

Location: Carter Lake, Iowa and Nebraska

Date: November 4, 1990 Time: 10:45 - 11:00

Description of Bird: The bird was approximately the same size or possibly slightly smaller than Ring-billed Gull. It had a white head with a black ear spot. The bill was completely black, rather small. Not as large as the bill of the Ring-billed Gulls. The nape was white with a heavy black line across the lower portion. The line also extended down onto the upper back. The mantle was a darker gray than the Ring-billed Gulls. It was dark enough to distinguish easily by the darker mantle from the Ring-billed Gulls. There was a black bar on the wing. When flying this bar formed a W across the wings. The tail was white with a black tip.

Behavior of Bird: The bird was resting on the water with Ring-billed Gulls near the southeast end of the lake just north of a small island. It flew south on the other side of the island and we did not see it for about five minutes. We then found it on the water about where it had been before.

Distance from Bird: approximately 75 to 100 yards.

Light Conditions: Cloudy

Optical Equipment Used: Bushnell 25x Spotting Scope.

Other observers: R.G. Cortelyou, Alice Rushton, Tanya Bray, B.J. Rose.

To our knowledge the bird was not seen after 11/4.

This report written from notes taken with bird in view.

November 6, 1990.

Babs Padelford

Loren Padelford