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An EQUAL OPPORTUNITY Agency

November 25, 1980

Mr. Thomas Kent  
211 Richards  
Iowa City, Iowa 52240

Dear Mr. Kent:

I am writing to give you some Iowa bird observations for the fall period.

- ✓ 1 least bittern; September 2, 1980; seen by James L. Hansen, Richard Bowman, and Guy Zenney of the Iowa Conservation Commission (ICC) and Dean Mueller of the Worth County Conservation Board; bird was found on the ground in Thompson (Winnebago County), possibly having flown into a wire; it was photographed and released, apparently having recovered
- ✓ 1 yellow rail; September 21, 1980; seen by James L. Hansen and Carl Priebe of the ICC; bird was caught alive by a dog at Big Marsh Wildlife Area, 6 miles north of Parkersburg in Butler County; it was dried off, photographed, and released unharmed
- ✓ 1 drake cinnamon teal; October 19, 1980; shot by a hunter at Zirble Slough, 5 miles south of Clear Lake, Cerro Gordo County; bird was seen and identified by Steve Schutte, fisheries biologist with the ICC
- ✓ 1 snowy owl; October 31, 1980; seen by James L. Hansen, James Kienzler, and Bill Ohde of the ICC and Bill Clark of Iowa State University, was in a field near the north edge of Eagle Lake, 5 miles northeast of Britt in Hancock County
- ✓ 1 snowy owl; November 13, 1980; seen by Dean Knauer, George Gage, and Dave Menke of DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge; bird was 2 miles east of DeSoto NWR along highway 30 in Harrison County.
- ✓ 1 female long-tailed duck (oldsquaw); November 15, 1980; shot on Clear Lake, Cerro Gordo County, by Lowell Washburn of Clear Lake; identified by Mr. Washburn, an avid "duck watcher" who knows his ducks very well. A second report of a long-tailed duck, probably a male, on Clear Lake on November 17 was received but not verified. From the description given, I think the identification was correct.

In addition to the above, I heard of two or three other snowy owls that were either seen by or reported to Carl Priebe. I think that these will be reported by either Carl or Dave Newhouse.