

**COMMISSIONERS**

JOHN C. BROPHY, Chairman—Lansing  
THOMAS A. BATES—Bellevue  
JOHN D. FIELD—Hamburg  
RICHARD W. KEMLER—Marshalltown  
DONALD E. KNUDSEN—Eagle Grove  
CAROLYN T. LUMBARD—Des Moines  
MARIAN PIKE—Whiting



Wallace State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319  
515/281-5145

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 Zenner 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.

Mr. Kent  
page 2  
November 25, 1980

HANSEN

If you need any other information, please write or call. My office phone number is 515-357-3517 or 6084, and my home number is 515-357-6643.

Sincerely,

*Jim Hansen*

James L. Hansen  
Waterfowl Research Biologist  
Iowa Conservation Commission  
1203 North Shore Drive  
Clear Lake, Iowa 50428  
JLH:eh  
cc: Gladys Black  
Dave Newhouse