

Lesser Black-backed Gull  
3 Dec 1986  
Red Rock Res., Marion Co., IA  
\*P. Petersen  
IBL 57:56, 77

Record Number: 86-30  
Classification: A-D

DOCUMENTATION

Peter C. Petersen

REFERENCES

Field Reports: IBL 57:56

Records Committee: 57:77

VOTE: 6-III, 1-abstain

III, Mantle and leg color seems convincing enough. Description does not indicate whether leg color could be discerned on other gulls under same conditions. It appears that description was written five hours after observation.

III, key marks noted.

III, Adequate description to describe Lesser Black-backed Gull. More comparative data could have been included in documentation. Doesn't observer have "Documentation form for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa." If not I would suggest he get some and use them, not the Illinois version!

III, Size, dark mantle, and yellow legs would seem to prove this ID.

III, Well seen and described.

86-30

Lesser Black-backed Gull - one

seen from Elk Rock State Park, Red Rock Res.

3 Dec. 1986 From 2:45 - 2:50 P.M.

Adult bird seen with Herring and Ring-billed Gulls resting on mud bar just w. of old Hay 14 along north edge of reservoir. Bird slightly smaller than nearby adult Herring gull, larger than Ring-billed Gulls surrounding it. head white with tan flecking, back + <sup>mantle</sup> slate grey, much darker than Herring gull. White below, wingtips black with very small amount of white on tips, bill light, legs light, yellowish

seen from about 300 meters with 30-40x60 scopes + 10x40 binoculars. All field marks except slate mantle noted with scopes

Also observed by Gil Sandvick who agreed with the observation. A similar bird seen 30 Nov. at Saylorville Res. by Steve Dinsmore, et al.

Both observers had seen the same species when First Iowa record documented at Red Rock Dam. Prior to the

observation both observers referred to Geographic guide, Master guide, Seabirds by Harrison + Gulls by Grant, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.

Documentation written just over 5 hours after observation.

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