

Ringed Kingfisher

Record Number: 94-02

7 Jan 1994

Classification: NA

Lock and Dam 14, Scott Co., IA

*Debbie Dee

DOCUMENTATION

Debbie Dee, Upper Mississippi River N.W.R., Post Office Building, Savanana, IL 61074 [19 Aug 1994]

REFERENCES

Field Reports: none

Records Committee: [not cited by mistake, IBL 65:82]

VOTE: 7 NA

NA, Description too brief for this sedentary south Texas species. Details such as extent of rusty color needed to eliminate female Belted Kingfisher.

NA, I recall an occasion where three IOU Records Committee members were in S. Texas trying to figure out if a Kingfisher was a Belted or a Ringed. I went back for the book. It was a Belted, but it illustrated the possibility of confusion. Evidently, the Ringed wanders northward to central Texas, but there is no precedent for this essentially nonmigratory species to appear in the Midwest. Also, the description did not completely rule out the Belted. The size is subjective, and both species may have rusty color on the belly. A good rule of thumb regarding vagrants: If a bird shouldn't be there, it's probably not. Carefully consider the more likely species.

NA, Fails to eliminate female Belted Kingfisher.

NA, A Ringed Kingfisher north of the Rio Grande is highly improbable. My hunch is that the cold, and maybe some wind, made the rusty breast band of a Belted look more extensive than it really is.

NA, Unlikely = impossible. Need much more detail.

NA, I believe PCP is right -- fluffed up female with rusty color crowding out rest of belly coloration.

NA, Female Belted Kingfisher not eliminated.

94-02



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge
Savanna District
Post Office Building
Savanna, Illinois 61074

IN REPLY REFER TO:

January 10, 1994

Mr. Pete Peterson
1108 Jersey Ridge Road
Davenport, IA 52803

Dear Mr. Peterson:

On January 7, 1994, while conducting the 1994 Mid-winter Bald Eagle Survey, I observed a Ringed Kingfisher on the Iowa side of Lock and Dam 14. I was parked in the south parking lot, Corps of Engineers LeClaire base at 9:30 a.m. and the Ringed Kingfisher was approximately 80 yards south of me perched on a tree limb by the shore. The rusty color on the belly, the large size, and posture of the bird made it quite noticeable with the naked eye.

Using a Bausch and Lomb Discoverer 15 to 60 power, 60 mm zoom telescope, I observed the bird for several minutes before it flew away. On the following Monday, January 10, 1994, I made a positive identification of the bird using the Golden Field Guide to Birds. At this point, I realized that the bird was exceptionally rare in this area and called you to report the sighting.

Sincerely,

Debbie Dee
Biological Technician



P.O. BOX 300 GENESEO, ILLINOIS 61254
GENESEO PHONE 309-944-4661
TOLL FREE 1-800-383-4661

Ross - I have little faith
in this obs. On Jan 11 I
saw a Belted at the
spot, fluffed out + looked
very large. She is a graduate
in wild life + said the
"entire underparts" were
rusty on the phone.