

DOCUMENTATION FORM

Species: Ruby-crowned Kinglet

Number: 2

Location: along River Road n of Keokuk, Lee Co., IA

Habitat: brushy area along river edge

Date: 22 December 1997

Time: 8:06-8:19 a.m.

Observer: Stephen J. Dinsmore 612 1/2 West Magnolia St. Fort Collins, CO 80521

Others who saw bird: Gordon Brown, Jim Sinclair

Description of bird(s): We were playing a screech-owl tape along River Road when I noticed a small, greenish bird, which I recognized as a kinglet. The bird was very small (smaller than a chickadee) and dark green in color with slightly paler underparts. There were two faint white wingbars on each wing. The bird also had a prominent white eyering. A short timer later, we found a second Ruby-crowned Kinglet farther up River Road. This bird was with several Golden-crowned Kinglets allowing for direct comparisons.

Similar species and how eliminated: The small size, greenish coloration, and shape identified the birds as kinglets. One of the birds was compared directly to Golden-crowned Kinglets, and was separated from that species by the eyering and lack of yellow on the crown.

Viewing conditions and equipment: Viewing conditions were excellent with overcast skies. Estimated viewing distance was as close as 5m. I used 10x42 binoculars.

Previous experience with species: I have considerable experience with both kinglet species as well as several warbler species with which this bird could possibly be confused (e.g. Orange-crowned, Nashville).

References consulted: none

How long before field notes made: none written

How long before this form completed: written 24 December 1997