

(PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE)

SUPPORTING DETAILS: UNCOMMON OR RARE SPECIES/HIGH NUMBERS

CBC Name Shenandoah, IA Date 1-4-97 Compiler Barbara Cunningham

Observer writing this account & date Laurence L. Falk, Ph.D., 2-12-97

SPECIES Regulus calendula
Ruby-crowned Kinglet NUMBER, AGE, SEX 3 At least one was female

Distance from bird(s) 5 ft at closest Relative size of bird Wren size

HEAD & NECK (Describe forehead, crown, auricular, malar region, median line, etc.)
Head was gray without eye line. Displayed little color in crown, that is no golden or yellow was visible. Kept red mostly covered.

EYE & LORES (Describe supercilium, ring, stripe, color, etc.)
Displayed prominent white eye rings

UPPER & LOWER MANDIBLES Mandibles were dark

LEGS & FEET Dark legs

UPPERPARTS (Describe nape, back, rump, upper tail coverts, etc.) Body was gray from nape through retrices, with prominent white wing patch. Except for the wing patch, coloration was fairly uniform on upper parts.

UNDERPARTS (Describe throat, belly, side, flanks, crissum, etc.) The underside was buffy-gray with lighter coverts on the underside of the tail.

RECTRICES (Describe inner, middle, outer tail feathers, color pattern, shape, etc.)
Gray to dark gray on upper retices with end slightly notched. Under side light gray

WING (Describe color, length, shape, linings, bars, coverts, leading & trailing edges, etc.)
wings extended beyond butt area being light on underside and with distinct light bar. No yellow coloration was visible on lower end of wings as in the GC Kinglet

VOCALIZATION _____

BEHAVIOR Birds displayed the quick, restless motion typical of Kinglets. They flitted around lower branches of trees searching food.

Date of observation 1-4-97 Time 10:45 a. Weather windy Sky cloudy

Duration of observation several min. Bird - Sun orientation sun not visible

Exact location In riparian habitat searching food in deciduous trees and shrubs from several feet off ground to 20 ft

Habitat 9 Other observers There were six persons in our group, five others
Optical equipment Binoculars ranging from 7x to 10 x

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS The basic question is whether these were RC or GC Kinglets. These displayed no yellow on the crown or on the wings. They did not display the more contrasting light and dark of the GC. They did not have the lighter eyeline.

AN ACCOMPANYING SKETCH OR PHOTOGRAPH CAN BE MOST HELPFUL