

ON THE 27<sup>TH</sup> IN THE NORTHWEST IN BLACK HAWK COUNTY,  
A SAW WHET OWL WAS DISCOVERED AT GEORGE WYTH  
STATE PARK, AND FOR DIRECTIONS, YOU CAN CALL PARK  
RANGER, TIM GEDLER, AT (319) 232-5505

ON THE 1<sup>ST</sup>, ~~THE ONLY NEWS WE HAVE HAD~~  
~~CONCERNING THE GREAT GRAY OWL IN BUTLER~~  
~~COUNTY WAS THAT IT WAS NOT LOCATED ON~~  
~~THE 29<sup>TH</sup>, SO THE LAST KNOWN SIGHTING~~  
~~WE HAVE HEARD ABOUT WAS ON THE 26<sup>TH</sup>.~~

IN THE SOUTHWEST IN SCOT COUNTY, ALONG THE  
MISSISSIPPI RIVER, 2 FIRST YEAR GLAUCOUS  
GULES AND AT LEAST 3 FIRST YEAR TRAILERS  
GULES WERE BETWEEN THE MOUNE-BETHANSKI  
WATERFRONT AND LOCK + DAM #15. IN COWLEY  
COUNTY, 13 SPECIES OF WATERFOWL INCLUDING  
11 GREATER WHITE FRONT GEESE WERE AT LOVE  
MARSH.

WITH NEWS ABOUT

ON THE 2<sup>ND</sup>, THE GREAT GRAY OWL IN BUTLER COUNTY.  
IT WAS LAST SIGHTED ON FEBRUARY 26<sup>TH</sup>, AND IT  
HAS BEEN SEARCHED FOR EACH DAY SINCE WITHOUT  
SUCCESS. REPORTS OF THE 4<sup>TH</sup> AND 5<sup>TH</sup> GREAT  
GRAY OWLS ON THE STATE HAVE REACHED US WITH  
A BIRD SEEN ONCE IN BLACK HAWK COUNTY 2 1/2  
WEEKS AGO, AND TODAY AN INJURED BIRD  
WAS FOUND IN WARREN COUNTY

IOWA RBA UPDATE: 2/26/96

BIRDS MENTIONED

GREAT GREY OWL  
Red-shouldered Hawk  
American Woodcock  
Great-tailed Grackle  
Townsend's Solitaire  
Short-eared Owl

On the 26th in the northeast in Butler County, the GREAT GREY OWL was found again in mid-afternoon in a line of trees on the west side of a pond, which is in the woods just northwest of the cable. In the central in Polk County, a RED-SHOULDERED HAWK was at Brenton Slough.

In news received the 26th, but all the sightings occurred on the 25th, Eugene Armstrong reports the first displaying AMERICAN WOODCOCK of the year in Madison County. In the northeast, Cedar Lake in Cedar Rapids held eleven species of ducks. In the southwest in Fremont County, a GREAT-TAILED GRACKLE was along county road J-34 about a quarter mile east of its junction with L-44. A TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE was seen in Pottawattamie County south of Council Bluffs. To look for this bird, go north a quarter mile from the intersection of hiways 275 and 370, and then east on Applewood Road from three-quarters of a mile to a mile, and look on the cedar covered hillside. In Wayne County, a SHORT-EARED OWL was along hiway 2 east of Corydon near a small airport.

Jim Fuller (319)338-3561  
jfuller@dentistry-po.dentistry.uiowa.edu  
IOUFULLER@aol.com

IOWA RBA (319)338-9881 for 2/26/96

BIRDS MENTIONED:

GREAT GREY OWL  
Red-winged Blackbird  
Killdeer  
American Robin  
Fox Sparrow  
Eastern Bluebird  
Thayer's Gull  
White-winged Crossbill  
Barred Owl  
Great-horned Owl  
Northern Shrike  
Loggerhead Shrike  
Pileated Woodpecker  
Peregrine Falcon  
Red-shouldered Hawk  
Northern Saw-whet Owl  
Long-eared Owl  
Short-eared Owl  
Golden Eagle  
Greater Scaup  
Green-winged Teal  
Greater White-fronted Goose  
Ross' Goose

The south winds and warm temperatures brought waterfowl and RED-WINGED BLACKBIRDS into the state over the weekend, as well as first reports of KILLDEER and FOX SPARROW. There were also additional reports of AMERICAN ROBINS and EASTERN BLUEBIRDS. The highlights are the GREAT GREY OWL, which continues to be seen in Butler County, THAYER'S GULL at Davenport, and WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILLS in the northwest.

*Jim Dismore reports that another Great Grey Owl was a road-kill in Grundy County on the 17th*

In the northeast in Butler County, the GREAT GREY OWL was found again at Big Marsh late in the morning of the 25th. It was sitting only fifty feet off the road in the line of trees along the north side of the Level B entrance road, just a quarter mile west of the cable. Here are the directions: From hiway 14 about five and a half miles north of Parkersburg, go west on county road C-51 for three miles, then north on Jay Avenue for one mile, and finally go back east on a Level B road for a mile and a half to where there is a cable across the road. The owl has been seen in this general area, sometimes as much as a half to three-quarters of a mile away, for the past two weeks, and it has been most easily found late in the afternoon and very early in the morning. Be careful, however, as there are also GREAT-HORNED and BARRED OWLS in the area, as well as PILEATED WOODPECKER and NORTHERN and LOGGERHEAD SHRIKES. In Linn County, a PEREGRINE FALCON was observed on the south side of the Roosevelt Hotel building in downtown Cedar Rapids on the 21st.

In the southeast in Scott County, a first-year THAYER'S GULL was on the

Mississippi River below Lock & Dam 15 in downtown Daveport on the 21st. In Johnson County on the 24th, the SAW-WHET OWL was still in a cedar tree less than a hundred yards northwest of the intersection of Greencastle Avenue and county road F-20, and LONG-EARED OWLS were in a cedar grove about a quarter mile southwest of the intersection of Greencastle Avenue and the Swan Lake Road. In Iowa County at the Amana Colonies, three SHORT-EARED OWLS were seen again in the pine grove southeast of the visitor's center on the 21st, and three SAW-WHET OWLS were at the old ice pond area about three-quarters of a mile west of Homestead on the 23rd, while the RED-SHOULDERED HAWK was near the hiway 151 bridge over the Iowa River on the 24th. To enter the first two areas, a permit is required from the Amana Society Business Office. In Cedar County, an immature GOLDEN EAGLE was spotted along I-80, just east of mile marker 264, on the 20th.

In the northwest in Sac County on the 25th, three WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILLS were at the Wall Lake Cemetery, and ten duck species were at Black Hawk Lake and Tomahawk Marsh.

In the central on the 25th, in Guthrie County, a GREEN-WINGED TEAL and GREATER SCAUP were at Bay's Branch, and GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GEESE and three ROSS' GEESE were at Lakin Slough. In Polk County, a NORTHERN SHRIKE was at Brenton Slough.

This is a reminder that winter field reports for Iowa Bird Life are due by March 3rd to winter field editor, Ross Silcock, at Box 300, Tabor, Iowa, 51653.

Jim Fuller (319)338-9881  
jfuller@dentistry-po.dentistry.uiowa.edu  
IOUFULLER@aol.com

