

ADDENDUM TO THE
CEDAR FALLS, IA
CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT - DECEMBER 27, 1980
COMPILER - FRANCIS MOORE

DETAILS OF UNUSUAL OBSERVATIONS:

1. Mallard - 950; There has never been more than an estimated 315 Mallards on the Cedar Falls, IA count previous to this year. Due to our moderate fall weather and excellent feeding areas close to the open waters along the Cedar River in Cedar Falls we found approximately 950 this year.
2. Peregrine Falcon - 1; A Peregrine Falcon any time in Iowa is a rare occurrence but one on a Christmas Bird Count is even rarer. The bird was seen by Tom Stone and Tom Stone, Jr. from their vehicle as it chased Rock Doves close to the Cedar River near downtown Cedar Falls, IA near the center point of the count area. The bird was observed using 7X50mm binoculars from a distance of 50 feet to 200 yards in good light. See attached documentation forms for further details.
3. Red-breasted Nuthatch - 9; The high count on a Cedar Falls CBC of Red-breasted Nuthatch prior to this count was four. Red-breasted Nuthatches were found readily where there were "evergreen" type trees. A usually "hard-to-find" species, this year it was more-or-less common throughout the area.
4. Brown Thrasher; Seen during count period not count day; Brown Thrashers this far North during the winter is very unusual. The bird seen was a rufous brown bird about the size of an American Robin with a long rufous brown tail. It had been coming to a feeder in Cedar Falls all during December and was seen the two days before the count but not on count day.
5. Varied Thrush - 1; The Varied Thrush that was seen on the count day was seen four different times on count day by several people taking part in the count. The third Varied Thrush to be in the Waterloo - Cedar Falls, IA area in the past three years, this one at least stayed around for the the count. It had been seen for about three weeks prior to the count and has been seen after the count, too. See attached documentation form for further details.
6. Pine Grosbeak - 1; One bird, a male, was seen on the North side of Mark Sand Prairie in a small stand of Cedar trees where it appeared to have been trying to go to roost. See attached documentation forms for further details.
7. Hoary Redpoll - 1; One Redpoll in a flock of 12 stood out from the rest of the other birds. After careful consideration of all field marks and knowing that there may be some geographic variation in Hoary Redpolls as well as there is geographic variation in Common Redpolls I came to the conclusion that the bird was a Hoary Redpoll which was independently verified by several other observers from our count group. See attached documentation forms for further details.