

HARR

Season: Winter

Year: 82-83

Name: Douglas C. Harr

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Larchwood, Iowa 51241

Other Observers: \_\_\_\_\_  
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General Notes: Season much warmer than usual, with about 28 in. of snowfall between Dec. 1 & Feb. 25. Worst storm on Dec. 27-28 with 14-16 in of snow in NW corner of state. Early warmup & melt appears to be bringing in some early migration (see notes below).

Species	No.	Date	Location--comments--other observers
✓ Canada Goose	250 + migrants	Feb. 21	Spirit Lake--250+ birds stayed in area all season; 500+ migrants seen wk of 2/21/83
Bald Eagle	1	Dec. 10	Kettleson Hogsback WMA, Spirit Lake. Adult bird.
✓ Short-eared Owl	1	Dec. 5	2 mi. NW of Inwood, Lyon County
✓ Redwing Blackbird	100+	Feb. 22	Kettleson Hogsback WMA, Spirit Lake. 1st migrant flock seen this year.
✓ Purple Finch	2	Jan. 25	Larchwood. 2 females--only 2nd time I've ever observed species in Larchwood.
✓ Snow Bunting	55	Jan. 12	near Little Rock, Lyon Co. Only flock I've sighted all winter. Probably due to little snow & much avail. food in Dakotas & north.

Tom--nothing much to report of interest this season. Just as a general comment, though, it seems that normal winter residents are either more plentiful or more visible this year due to mild winter (?). Goldfinches, Cardinals, & other desirable feeder birds being reported very commonly throughout region. One question puzzles me, however--where are the usual large numbers of flickers? I noted the apparent shortage this winter and have had other local birds remark about the same thing.

Doug Harr

