

Jim Dinsmore

1 March 1984

Dear Tom,

Attached is report for winter season. From my view, it was a fairly dull season with virtually no winter finches reported, bad weather early in the season making birding treacherous, and then an unusually early spring with snow largely gone here between 18 and 25 Feb. I have attached a second sheet listing birds not seen by me but reported to me, many through my ornithology class. (=ISU for initials)

- American Black Duck 2 on Colo ponds on 26 Feb JD, SD
- Mallard usual birds wintering at Saylorville Dam on 8 Jan JD, SD
- Ring-necked Duck one at Saylorville Dam on 8 Jan prob was wintering JD, SD
- Canvasback 2 males at Saylorville Dam on 8 Jan prob were wintering JD, SD
- Gadwall 2 at Colo ponds on 27 Feb were the earliest here JD, Ted LaGrange (TL)
- American Wigeon 4 at Colo ponds on 26 Feb JD, SD
- Northern Saw-whet Owl none found at Ledges S. P. on 21 Jan JD, SD
- Horned Lark dozens of paired birds along roads on 27 Feb in E Story Co JD, TL
- American Robin with all of the early migration of many birds, robins still had not returned to Ames as of end of Feb
- Lapland Longspur 3 flocks of 50-200 birds in E Story Co on 27 Feb JD, TL
- Snow Bunting 100 3 mi NE of Nevada on 29 Dec JD
also 12 3 mi N of Jewell and 50 7 mi W of Webster City (both in Hamilton County) on 10 Dec 1984 JD
- Common Grackle ~~2 in Ames on 12 Feb were the earliest JD~~
- Rusty Blackbird 50 near Colo on 26 Feb JD, SD
- Common Grackle 2 in Ames on 12 Feb were the earliest reported JD
- Pine Siskin 3 in Ames on 23 Feb JD (also 3 in Ames on 21 Feb by J Schaufenbuel) were only ones I heard of

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Birds fide of Dinsmore

- Greater White-fronted Goose several at Colo Ponds on 27 Feb Ted LaGrange (TL)
- Snow Goose 30,000 back at Riverton by 17 Feb Erv Klaas
- Ross' Goose one at Riverton on 17 Feb (bird was examined in the hand by Erv Klaas)
- Canada Goose flocks started moving through Ames area from 15-22 Feb ISU
- Wood Duck 2 in northern Polk County on 22 Feb were early (Ted Eischeid)
- Northern Shoveler 1 in Ames on 16 Feb was very early (Mike Brown)
- Common Merganser 6 at Saylorville on 12 Feb were early ISU
- see* Northern Goshawk 1 near L Rathbun on 19 Dec Mike Brown, see documentation
- see* Peregrine Falcon 1 in Ames on 31 Jan 1984 K. Bostian see documentation,
I talked at length with Kelly about this and he stuck to his
description but I think it probably would have to be just considered
a large falcon; prairie would be much more likely at this time of year
- Killdeer 3 over ISU campus on 15 Feb were the earliest J Schaufenbuel
- Common Barn-Owl one was found dead on 4 Dec 3 mi S of Sioux Center, Sioux Co
by Bill Fribley (ICC Conservation Officer for area)
- Snowy Owl one 3 mi NE of Hull, Sioux County on 20 Jan 1984 Bill Fribley
- White-throated Sparrow one on ISU campus on 24 Feb had been seen earlier in
winter and probably wintered there J Schaufenbuel