

Season: Winter Year: 83-84 Name: Douglas Harr
Address: P.O. Box 65
Larchwood, Iowa 51241

Other Observers: Bill Fribley
LaVonne Foote
Ron Spengler
(Listings at bottom of page)

General Notes: A very severe winter which appears to have affected all winter birds in NW Iowa from pheasants to backyard songbirds. Severe blizzards or snowstorms followed by intense cold snaps on Dec. 24, Jan. 12, & Feb. 4. Also 10-12 in. of wet, heavy snow on Feb. 18.

Species	No.	Date	Location--comments--other observers
Rough-legged hawk	1	12-3-83	7 mi. west of Rock Valley, Sioux Co.
Snowy Owl	1-Imm.	1-17-84	3 mi. NW of Spirit Lake, Dickinson Co.
Snow Buntings	(general note): approx.		very abundant all season long throughout NW Iowa.
Canada Geese	200	2-15-84	Very early arrival at Spirit Lake, Dickinson County.

OTHER OBSERVERS: (secondhand reports)

(I spent much time indoors this winter so birding was slim; however, the following worthwhile reports were submitted to me):

Bald Eagle	1-Ad.	12-11-83	4 mi. S of George, Lyon County, reported by <u>Bill Fribley</u>
Prairie Chicken	1	1-2-84	$\frac{1}{2}$ mi. west of Ocheyedon, reported by <u>Ron Spengler</u> (see enclosed documentary letter) I can vouch for Ron's knowledge of gamebirds!
E. Screech Owl	1	12-14-83	At Suet feeder 3 mi. NW of Spirit Lake, Dickinson County, reported by <u>Gary Wee</u>
Snowy Owl	1-Imm.	2-20-84	4 mi. NE of Hull, Sioux County, reported by <u>Bill Fribley</u>
Barn Owl (dead)	1	12-4-83	Found dead along highway 75, 2 mi. S of Sioux Center, Sioux County, by <u>Bill Fribley</u> (Cons. Officer). Reports farm family nearby saw two in silo this summer.
N. Shrike	1	12-14-83	raiding feeders 3 mi. NW of Spirit Lake, Dickinson Co., reported by <u>LaVonne Foote</u>