

Jim

February 12, 1978

To: W.S. Halmi

Field Reports - Winter 1977-78

- ① 1 Short-eared Owl seen hunting over a hayfield near Stephens State Forest, Lucas Co. on 26 Dec, 29 Dec, and 8 Jan.
- ② Wild Turkeys - 350-400 in the sections of Stephens State Forest in Lucas County. This includes flocks sizes of: 16, 55, 37, 60, 26 and more.
- ③ Common Redpolls
3 on 8 Jan - feeding on ~~base~~ ~~side~~ road-ditch edge cleared of snow. Stephens State Forest, Lucas Co.
- ④ American Kestrels - 3 around Stephens Forest, Lucas Co.
- ⑤ Rough-legged Hawks - 4 around the forest area in Lucas Co. and

3 more east of the forest area still
in Lucas County.

⑥ Coopers Hawk

Adult - 31 Jan - Stephens Forest, Lucas Co
Immature - 8 Feb - " " " "

The adult was seen flying across
the road, the juvenile was seen
hunting a weedy area east of our house.

⑦ Tree Sparrows - 5 at bird feeder, most
of the winter. Lucas County

⑧ Eastern Bluebirds

Small groups of 4 or 5 throughout
the winter.

20 seen on 12 February by
Bruce & Madlene Chressman.

All seen in Stephens State Forest area,
Lucas County.

⑨ Shrike spp., ~~presumed to~~ probably Loggerhead ^{more likely in S. Iowa}
Total of 5 - 2 around ~~Forest~~ ^{Stephens}
Forest Area, Lucas County; 3 east
of Stephens Forest Area, still in Lucas County.
(seen 5 Feb).

Birds were observed anywhere from
10:00 am → 3:00 p.m.

All were smaller than robin size, gray
above, light below with no visible barring.
They had black stripe through the eye
to the bill. Heavy, hooked-type bill.

Three of the birds were sitting on telephone
wires, one in a hedge row, and one was
eating its prey ~~and~~ that was impaled on
the barb of a barbed wire fence. All birds
were ~~sight~~ sighted near open pasture-like areas.

Definitely not mockingbirds - head, bill, body
shape & ~~also~~ coloring not right. Also
the impaled prey would not indicate
a mockingbird.

The Shrikes were ~~observed~~ observed ^{with} ~~by~~
7 X 35⁰ binoculars within 100 feet of
observer.

No other ~~observers~~ observers.

Books consulted: Petersen Field Guide,
Bent Series, Forbush & May (A Natural
History of American Birds), Robbins, Zim,
Brown, & Singer (Birds of North America
~~Goldenback Field Guide~~).

Description written one week after seeing birds.

Gay & Lloyd Crim

12 Feb 1978

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Lucas, Iowa 50151