

MISC. NOTES & INFORMATION ABOUT SPIRIT LAKE CBC, FOR IOU (count date 12/19/87)

(Doug Harr, Compiler)

1. List of participants:

✓ LaVonne Foote (feeder report coordinator)	Sarah Koepp
✓ Doug Harr (compiler-leader)	Dave Kuehl
Russ Heine	Bob Livermore
Andrew Hesler	Wayne Livermore
✓ Julie Hesler	Bob Madsen
Robert Koepp	

2. Spirit Lake Area CBC also covers a small portion of southern Minnesota in count territory. All figures reported to IOU include IOWA BIRDS ONLY; Minn. birds were included with report returned to Audubon Society CBC compilers.

3. Notes about rare or unusual species seen on Spirit Lake CBC:

- A. Duck, species--400 seen taking off in thick fog from open water on West Okoboji Lake could not be identified, but likely were mostly Mallards
- B. Cooper's Hawk--1 imm. female seen by Doug Harr; crow-sized, brown above, whitish below with streaking, relatively long & narrow tail with rounded end, seen pursuing other small birds through mixed pine-deciduous tree planting. Observed on two occasions from 50-80 yards for 5-10 seconds each time, second sighting with 7x50 binoculars.
- C. Shrike species--was reported to compiler as Northern Shrike with no documentation, so it has been entered on IOU form as shrike species only.
- D. Field Sparrow--sketchy verbal details (no documentation) given to compiler by field party suggests ID is correct; described as much like Tree Sparrow but with NO central breast spot. Use judgement on whether or not to include in IOU records.
- E. Osprey--No documentation provided (phoned in by feeder watcher on West Okoboji Lake), but several people have seen this bird over a period of nearly 4 weeks fishing on open lake. I believe this sighting is completely accurate and suggest it be included in IOU records.
- F. Common Loon--5 on open water of West Okoboji Lake. These birds have also been seen for 3-4 weeks on Lake and this sighting must also be considered accurate for IOU records. Loons on the big northern Iowa lakes are not at all uncommon for early through mid-December when open water present. Note also all the other waterfowl sighted on these lakes during this CBC.

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