

# Additional Glaucous Gull Record for North Dakota

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David Goeke (1971) reported the sighting of a glaucous gull (*Larus hyperboreus*) at Devils Lake in Benson County, North Dakota, on November 25, 1970. On April 6, 1971, my wife, Lois, and I were traveling to Bismarck and altered our route to look over McKenzie Slough, just south of McKenzie, Burleigh County, North Dakota. At 10:30 a.m., we observed a glaucous gull in second-winter plumage resting on the edge of the ice near open water. Several herring and ringbilled gulls were on the same body of water, and this bird was definitely larger than the herring gulls.

After taking several photos of the bird (Fig. 1) we continued to Mandan and related the sighting to Jim and Orma Swanick of Mandan. We all traveled to the slough and observed the bird at about 12:30 p.m. Later the same day, Becky Quanrud of Bismarck accompanied us to the area where we observed the bird again about 6 p.m. We failed to find the gull the following day.

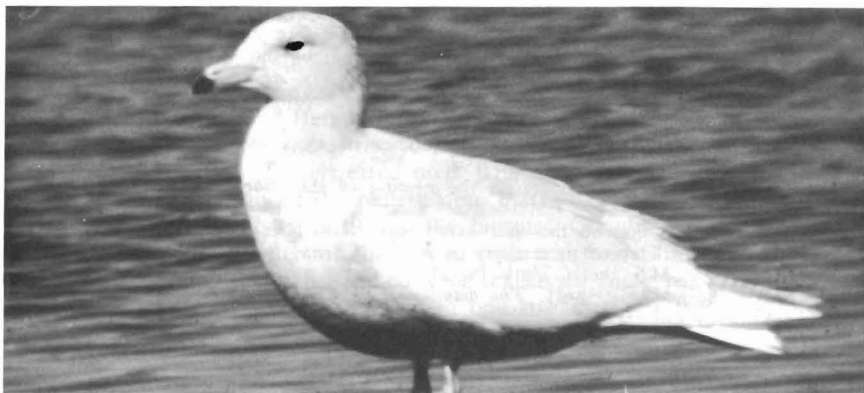


FIG. 1. Glaucous gull at McKenzie Slough, N.D., 6 April 1971.

Three days previous to this sighting, I observed and photographed an identically plumaged glaucous gull at Farm Island State Park near Pierre, South Dakota. This bird was also with herring gulls but could not be located on April 4 or 5.

Since these sightings I have made several additional observations of glaucous gulls on the Missouri River in the Pierre area: December 2, 1971 through January 9, 1972, when two birds were seen; April 2 through May 10, 1972, when both first- and second-winter plumaged birds were seen; and December 20, 1972, when an adult glaucous gull was seen with 11 herring gulls. The last bird is the first adult I've observed.

#### LITERATURE CITED

Goeke, D. 1971. Glaucous gull in Benson County, North Dakota. *Prairie Nat.* 3(3/4): 60.