

Gull (*Larus glaucooides*) has a smaller body, much smaller bill, more rounded crown and steeper forehead, usually whiter plumage, and longer primary extension, all of which contribute to an overall delicate appearance, and a vermiculated tail. Slaty-backed Gull (*L. schistisagus*) and Western Gull are similar to Glaucous-winged Gull in size, proportions, and bill shape but show contrasting dark wing tips, tail, and secondary bars.

Grant (1986) stresses that hybrids normally show intermediate or "wrong" characters, none of which was apparent on the Calumet bird. To eliminate Glaucous-winged X Western Gull, the authors consulted D. Paulson, providing him with written documentations, videotape, and still photographs of the Calumet bird. Paulson, familiar with the two species and their hybrids, said, "from available photos, it is a pure Glaucous-winged Gull, showing no evidence of introgression with Western Gull. The two hybridize on a grand scale in Washington, to the point at which many of the birds we see in Puget Sound are intermediate, but the Illinois bird is not so. Nor can I see any

evidence of hybridization with Glaucous or Herring; we get both of these hybrid types here and have them in our collection." In summation, Paulson stated, "this bird was a Glaucous-winged Gull. It matches my mental picture—a composite of many thousands of observations over a quarter-century—of this species perfectly and cannot, from the field marks visible, be any other gull species." All other reviewers, P. Lehman, G. McCaskie, J. Morlan, W. Russell, and T. S. Schulenberg, reached the same conclusions.

Distribution

The Glaucous-winged Gull is essentially a bird of the Pacific coast. The Illinois bird apparently is a product of a recent pattern of inland vagrancy and range expansion of this species, as will be detailed elsewhere (Binford and Johnson in prep.).

Although the Calumet Glaucous-winged Gull did not generate the fanfare or excitement of the previous year's Ivory Gull (*Pagophila eburnea*;

Stokie 1992; Walters 1992), perhaps it should have. Not only was it the first confirmed record for Illinois but also the easternmost for the species and only the second for eastern North America. The two records nearest Illinois were an adult collected on 15 February 1912 at Capron, Oklahoma (Sutton 1967), about 650 miles southwest, and a first-winter bird seen 31 March to 6 April 1989 near Iliff, some 760 miles west in northeastern Colorado (Kingery 1989; B. Prather in litt.). The only other accepted eastern record was a second-summer bird taken on 1 June 1964 at Churchill, Manitoba (Jehl 1974; P. Chu in litt.). However, it should be noted that three other Illinois sight records are pending before IORC: Peoria and Tazewell counties, 18-24 February 1989; Lake Decatur, Macon County, 19-20 February 1993; and Peoria County, 27-28 February 1993.

Illinois birders truly had something to be thankful for this Thanksgiving. Gulls are great wanderers, and all who saw the Calumet bird were delighted it wandered their way.



Acknowledgments

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- Johnson, 504 Crown Point Drive, Buffalo Grove, IL 60089
- Binford, 330 Grove Street, Glencoe, IL 60022
- Marcisz, 13416 S. Mackinaw Ave, Chicago, IL 60633
- Stokie, 174 E. Kathleen Dr., Park Ridge, IL 60068