

BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD.

1. Species Great Blue Heron Colony 2. Number: 3 active nests  
 3. Location about 2 mi S. of Saylorsville Dam <sup>0.5 mi</sup> 0.5 mi S of 66<sup>th</sup>, east side of DSM Road  
 4. Date: 7/27/84 5. Time Bird seen: 10<sup>00</sup> A.M. to 11<sup>00</sup> A.M.

6. Description of size, shape and color-pattern (describe in great detail all parts of the plumage, and beak and feet coloration, in addition, to the diagnostic characteristics, but include only what actually was seen in the field): at least 3 active nests in dense river bottom mature forest, young quite large, standing on nests, in trees. Parents visiting regularly. One toppled nest near the ground. Area very swampy with old river channels. Noctonatory warblers, wood duck in immediate vicinity. Five young estimated, but viewing difficult because of heavy canopy.

7. Description of voice, if heard: young very vocal as adults arrive  
 8. Description of behavior: adults feeding regularly  
 9. Habitat - general: Heavy, mature river bottom, very thick canopy. Nest in forest  
 specific: 4/0 or nearby silver maple.

10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7 & 8, Explain:

11. Distance (how measured)? straight overhead 12. Optical equipment: 7x50

13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you): good, clear

14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species: Rothbaron colony

15. Other observers: none

16. Did the others agree with your identification? —

17. Other observers who independently identified this bird: —

18. Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description:

Down Birds 1984.  
Any other central down colonies at this time?

19. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description? 29<sup>0</sup>

Berry Engebretsen Address: 6492 James Francis Pl  
 Signature

Date: 7/28/84 City, State: Johnston, Ia, 50131

As many as 4 adult yellow crowned night herons seen regularly all summer about 1/2 mi east of this location (26<sup>th</sup> St.) (over) Last summer, 2 adults regular, then 2 immature later. (I was looking for their nests) also regular American Egrets in same location this summer. Area is large, has been flooded in large

areas most of the summer, but not much traveled any time,  
except hunting season. Loop has bulldozed side of bike trail  
about 50 yds from nests. Will become much more heavily  
traveled when black-topped. Pileated woodpeckers seen regularly  
in this same area. Nests can be seen from road (NW 26<sup>th</sup> St)  
about 0.8 mi S. of 66<sup>th</sup> Ave junction.

10. Similar? appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7 & 8. Explain:

11. Distance (how measured)?

12. Light (day, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you)?

13. Location of bird? (with reference to species and similarly appearing species)

14. Other observers?

15. Did the others agree with your identification?

16. Other observers who independently identified this bird: —

17. Date, time, location and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description:

18. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description?

Address: P.O. Box 100, Lewis & Clark

City, State: Johnston, Ia. 50131

Date: 7/22/84

Observer: [Signature]

BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD.

1. Species Addendum, Great Blue Heron Colony 2. Number: total of 9 nests

3. Location same as previously reported

4. Date: 8/1/84 5. Time Bird seen: 9<sup>30</sup> to 10<sup>30</sup> AM

6. Description of size, shape and color-pattern (describe in great detail all parts of the plumage, and beak and feet coloration, in addition, to the diagnostic characteristics, but include only what actually was seen in the field): 6 additional nests found on 8/1, for total of 9. Total young, about 18. May be more nests as I did not approach too closely, also looked for yellow crown nests 5 success, this is a large, swampy area, difficult to cover adequately.

7. Description of voice, if heard:

8. Description of behavior:

9. Habitat - general:  
specific:

10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7 & 8, Explain:

11. Distance (how measured)?

12. Optical equipment:

13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you):

14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species:

15. Other observers:

16. Did the others agree with your identification?

17. Other observers who independently identified this bird:

18. Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description:

19. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description?

Bern Engelstein Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Date: 8/2/84 City, State: \_\_\_\_\_