

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? IBIS (SP) How many? (1)Location? UNION GROVE ST. PARK - TAMA COUNTYType of habitat? LAKEWhen? date(s): 9/30/85 time: _____ to _____Who? your name and address: JIM FULLER, 6 LONGVIEW KNOLL, RR #6, IOWA CITYothers with you: CAL KNIGHT

others before or after you: _____

Describe the bird(s) including only what you observed. Include size, shape, details of all parts (bill, eye, head, neck, back, wing, tail, throat, breast, belly, under tail, legs, feet). Also mention voice and behavior.

AN IBIS HAD BEEN REPORTED AT THIS LOCATION. WE ARRIVED APPROX 7:40 AM ON THE MORNING AFTER A COLD FRONT HAD RECENTLY PASSED AND WIND WAS STRONG FROM NW. AFTER SEARCHING THE LAKE SHORE AND NOT FINDING THE BIRD, WE STOPPED AT THE NORTH END OF LAKE. WHILE LOOKING AT THAT LOCATION A BIRD FLEW OVER THE LAKE, MADE ONE CIRCLE, AND WAS LOST TO VIEW GOING TOWARD SE ON THE STRONG WIND. THE BIRD SILHOUETTED AGAINST THE MORNING SKY APPEARED ABOUT THE SIZE OF A SMALL HERON LIKE LITTLE BLUE OR SNOWY EGRET, FLEW WITH ITS NECK EXTENDED AND HAD A ~~THIN~~ LONG BILL WHICH HAD A DOWNWARD CURVATURE, WHICH WAS DISTINCTIVE. THE TOTAL VIEWING TIME WAS ONLY ABOUT 30 SECONDS, BUT THE SILHOUETTE WAS THAT OF AN IBIS. THE VALUE OF THIS REPORT MAY BE ONLY SUPPORTIVE TO A LONGER AND MORE DETAILED DESCRIPTION.

Similar species and how eliminated: SMALL HERONS - BILL SHAPEDid any one disagree or have reservations about identification? NO

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment:
8:00 AM - 150 YARDS ESTIMATED WITH 9X36 BINOCULARS
CLOUDY SKIESPrevious experience with species and similar ones: SEEN IN IOWA ONCE, BUT SEEN MANY TIMES (INCLUDING FLYING) JUNE 1985 IN UTAH.
References and persons consulted before writing description: PETERSON GUIDEHow long before field notes made? IMMEDIATELY this form completed? 12 HOURS

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