

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? Ibis sp. How many? 1Location? S. of Ely, IAType of habitat? Marshy roadside pondWhen? date(s): 25 September 1986 time: 1:00 to 1:10Who? your name and address: Thomas H. Kent, 211 Richards St, Iowa City, IA 52240others with you: noneothers before or after you: Jim Fuller

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.

A typical ibis - all dark. Bird flushed from near the road to about 40 yds and fed in open water. With binoculars it was all dark. I went back to car + drove up so as to use a window scope. I saw black wings and body except for some iridescent green in wings. Neck and head were dark brown and streaked. Legs were dark. Bill dark.

I could not make out facial skin. When seen straight on, there was a very fine white between bill and forehead - so fine I was not sure of this mark. I could not make out facial skin. At some angles the iris appeared dark yellowish, but the lighting was poor. Sun high and behind bird.

Similar species and how eliminated:

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? _____

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment:
as above, 10x binocs, 20x scopePrevious experience with species and similar ones: have seen white faced Ibis in Iowa, + Glossy in West Coast.References and persons consulted before writing description: noHow long before field notes made? 7 hrs this form completed? 7 hrs

MAIL TO: T. H. Kent, Field Reports Editor, 211 Richards Street, Iowa City IA 52240