

DOCUMENTATION FORM  
For Extraordinary Bird Sightings in Iowa

What species? Turkey Vulture How many? 1

Location? 1 1/2 miles south, 1 mile west of Eden Valley Refuge

Type of Habitat? Mixed cropland and woods

When? date(s): Dec 19, 1997 time: 2:00 to 2:03

Who? your name and address: Walt Wickham, Calamus, IA

Others with you: Chip Brown

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, undertail, legs, feet). Also mention voice and behavior.

Large (Eagle sized), black bird. Small head - no feathers, long tail, deeply slotted wing feathers.

Similar species; how eliminated: lack of head feathers,

Did any one disagree or have reservations about the identification? No

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), optical equipment.

Daylight, estimated distance of 100 yards,  
7x35 binoculars

Previous experience with species and similar ones:

Both this and similar species (Bald Eagle) are often seen in this area.

References and persons consulted before writing description:

How long before field notes made? \_\_\_\_\_ this form completed? 1/5/98

Send completed form to Field Reports or CBC editor (address on back cover of Iowa Bird Life).