

12/2/81 ✓

CONTRIBUTOR: Tanya Bray

OTHER OBSERVERS: Sandy Kovanda
Babs Padelford, B.J. Rose, Don Bray

SEASON: Fall *9708 Crover*
YEAR: 1981 *Omaha NE 68124*

WEATHER/HABITAT: describe any unusual features at bottom of page

SPECIES	NO.	DATE	LOCATION - COMMENT - OTHER OBSERVERS
✓ Com. Loon	3	10-20	Lake Manawa SK, BP, BJR, TB
✓ Eared Grebe	10	10-20	Lake Manawa " " " "
✓ D.C. Cormorant	2	10-17	Cold Springs, Cass County TB, DB
✓ D.C. Cormorant	2	10-20	Lake Manawa SK, BP, BJR, TB
G.B. Heron	2	11-5	DeSoto Bend NWR BP, SK, TB
✓ Black Duck	2	11-5	DeSoto Bend NWR " " "
✓ Redhead	30	10-20	Lake Manawa SK, BJR, BP, TB
Canvasback	1	10-20	Lake Manawa " " " "
✓ Greater Scaup	1	10-20	Lake Manawa--documentation enclosed
Sharp-sh Hawk	1	10-17	Cold Springs TB, DB
✓ Cooper's Hawk	1	10-28	Mills County SK, BP, TB
✓ Swainson's Hawk	1	10-17	Cold Springs TB
✓ Prairie Falcon	1	10-20	Pottawattamie County doc. enc.
✓ Prairie Falcon	1	11-5	DeSoto Bend NWR doc. enc
Com. Snipe	1	10-20	Lake Manawa SK, BP, TB
✓ Solitary Sandpiper	1	8-18	IPL Settling Ponds BP, TB
✓ Ring-bl Gull	15	11-5	DeSoto Bend NWR SK, BP, TB
✓ Bonaparte's Gull	6	11-5	DeSoto Bend " " "
✓ Black Tern	4	8-4	Lake Manawa SK, TB
✓ Yel-bell Sapsucker	1	10-28	Mills County SK, TB, BP
✓ Red-br Nuthatch	3	10-17	Cass County TB, DB
✓ Sedge Wren	1	8-4	Lake Manawa D SK, TB
Ruby-cr Kinglet	2	10-17	Cold Springs, Cass County TB
Cedar Waxwing	6	11-5	Crescent, Iowa SK, BP, TB
✓ Solitary Vireo	1	10-17	Cold Springs (late) TB

PRairie FALCON (1)

Mills County, Highway 370, approx 1½ miles east of the Bellevue Bridge

October 20, 1981
11:30 a.m.--11:35 a.m.

Description:

Large Falcon, near size of No. Harrier; Upperparts pale brown; Long pointed wings with barred primaries and secondaries. Very distinct black axillaries, dark feathers extending into wing linings. Long rounded tail. Thin facial marking extending from eye through cheek.

Behavior:

The falcon flew out of an uncut cornfield, flying south across the highway in front of us. Then with steady wingbeats, turned toward us again, quartering over a field of corn stubble--gradually spiraling upward before continuing to the south.

Habitat: Missouri River bottomland; cornfields

Similarly appearing species:

The pale brown upperparts and black axillars eliminate Peregrine Falcon. Size and black axillars eliminate Merlin.

Experience: Babs Padelford and Tanya Bray have seen Prairie Falcons in western Nebraska and other western localities.

Distance 100'-400' guess
Clear, sunny day

Equipment;

8x30 Binoculars
6x26 "
8x30 "

Books Consulted: Birds of N.A. Robbins et al
Field Guide to Eastern Birds--RTPeterson
Field Identification Pamphlet for N.A. Raptors

Both Peterson and Field I.D. Pamphlet show the dark feathers in axillaries extending into the wing lining.

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PRAIRIE FALCON (1)

DeSoto Bend NWR(Nebr. portion)

November 5, 1981

10:30 a.m.

Description: Head clear brown with slightly darker crown; thin facial marking from eye through white cheek. Breast dull-white streaked with brown. Black axillars extending into wing linings. Wings long, pointed with barred primaries. Tail long, rounded, faintly barred.

Behavior: This bird flew out of a wooded area; over a field and returned to the trees.

Similarly appearing species: This bird had distinct black axillaries, unlike either Peregrine Falcon or Merlin.

Habitat: Missouri River Bottomland; Cottonwood trees and fields

Distance and skies: 200' guess Sunny, windy

Equipment: 8x30 binoculars

8x 30 "

6x 26 "

Books Consulted: none

Tanya Bray
Babs Padelford
Sandy Kovanda

GREATER SCAUP (1)

October 20, 1981
10:45 a. m.

Lake Manawa--Pottawattamie County

Description: Dark head and breast; white belly
Dark wings with white wing stripe extending through
primaries almost to tip of wing.

Behavior: Rapid wingbeats while flying low across lake

Observers: B.J.Rose
Tanya Bray
Sandy Kovanda
Babs Padelford