

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? N. goshawk ad How many? 1Location? NE CORNER Hickory Hill Park, Iowa City Johnson Co. IAType of habitat? mixture of pastures, hedgerows, second-growth woodsWhen? date(s): 15 Nov 1981 time: 3:30 to 4:30 PMWho? your name and address: Mike Newlon 408 Wales St Iowa Cityothers with you: —others before or after you: T. Kent, T. Staudt, R. Hollis

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.

Size: about that of n.t. hawk, a bit longer + more slender. $\sim 3\frac{1}{2}$ length of blue jays
mobbing itbuild: compared to redtail more slender, smaller head, longer tail. crown flat.
for size of bird, tail shorter than Cooper's or sharp-shin.Plumage: except as noted upperparts ~~black~~ grey, as was rump. Tail grey with
about 3 wide transverse dark bars. Wing-coverts pale grey contrasting with much
darker primaries. crown + sides of head dark grey. Pale stripe above eye. On
nape a wide transverse pale bar, not joined to eye stripe, divided in center
with a narrow dark vertical bar continues with dark of crown + ~~area~~ of lower
nape. Underparts white + very fine transverse dark bars. Under-tailcoverts
v. long + fluffy, white, extending $\frac{3}{4}$ way down tail. legs + feet yellow. eye deep
red. Bill dark.behavior: perched halfway up small tree; flew to pasture green up to cedar/
hawthorn when mobbed by jays. Obs. several times chasing m. doves in pasture.
later seen pursuing small bird into thicket, crashed through weeds + perched
on fallen log. Then flew to a succession of perches in trees, moving from
one to another when flushed by observers.flight: swift and direct. wingbeats rapid, made only a few short glides.
voice: when pursuing small bird, gave a rapid medium pitched cackle, not
loud "cher-cher-cher-cher-cher".Similar species and how eliminated: Pattern: pale grey above, white below, no white
rump eliminates all other large N. Am. Hawks.Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? no

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment:
Dull grey rainy afternoon. when first seen light not too bad, obs. from an
est 70'. later, light worse, not so closely seen except in flight, v. quickly.Previous experience with species and similar ones: have seen at Duluth + Hawk mtn;
also Wash State + Mass; also many sh-sh. + some Cooper's hawks.References and persons consulted before writing description: —How long before field notes made? 2h this form completed? (copied)

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

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? [Audubon's] yellow-rumped warbler How many? 1Location? Woods below Coralville DamType of habitat? tangle/blowdown, weed patch near riverbankWhen? date(s): 27 Oct 1981 time: ~9:30 to ~9:35 AMWho? your name and address: Michael Newton 908 Wales St Iowa Cityothers with you: J. Sandrock, Mary Noble, Ed Carpenter, Inez Marksothers 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.

Small bird, a bit smaller than an English sparrow + more slender.
 Medium-length slender bill.

Upper parts from forehead to ^{yellow} rump brownish, wings + tail brownish ~~with~~ but a bit darker. Two pale wing bars, a little pale color in tail.
 Broken pale eye-ring. Underparts pale greyish-brown. Indistinct yellow smudge at bend of folded wing. Very faint yellow smudges on throat.

Bill + legs dark grey.

Voice: higher-pitched than myrtle's 'tup', ^{more like a two-} syllabled chee-up, with ^{husky quality} tone to it - ~~which~~ reminded me a bit of song-sparrow's call-note; it was this odd note that ^{1st} drew attention to the bird.

Behavior: in weedy blow-down tangle; came up in response to spushing, called repeatedly; good view at 80'; flew to top of a tree, then flew s. down river.

Similar species and how eliminated: Lack of streaking on underparts, yellow at sides of breast, yellow rump eliminate all other warblers.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? _____If yes, explain: others non-committal.

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

Dull grey day, no shadows, light not too good. Sun position behind observers. Range 50' - 75' (est.).

Previous experience with species and similar ones: Have seen all IA warblers; also numerous Audubon's on west coast (in fact just a few weeks prev-
 References and persons consulted before writing description: None (only).

How long before field notes made? _____ this form completed? 2 1/2 hrs.

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DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? (Halan's) red-tailed hawk How many? 1Location? N side Hickory Hill Park Iowa City, Johnson Co IAType of habitat? pasture/hedges/woodsWhen? date(s): 16 Nov 1981 time: 8:30 to 8:45 AMWho? your name and address: Mike Newlen 908 Wales St Iowa City IA 52240others with you: —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.

Buteo size + shape similar to red tail

head brown streaked with paler. Back + wings brown with extensive white spots on scapulars.

Underparts pale with coarse streaking on chest + little apparent breastband. Belly not streaked (not seen well though)

Rump whitish

Tail white basally, increasingly mottled with dusky distally; the dusky forming a broad terminal band about 1/3 the length of the tail. A rusty 'wash' showed through the dark of the tailband

Underwings - primaries not immaculate white as usual in rough-leg. Bill + legs dark

Perched in trees, preened, shook feathers out. Would not allow close approach, would fly wherever I got closer than ~ 50 yds.

Similar species and how eliminated:

Lack of immaculate primaries, rusty in tail tend to eliminate rough-leg.

Tail pattern suggests Halan's r.t.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? —If yes, explain: —

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

Good light - sunny + light behind obs but not observed closely - 50-100 yds est.

Previous experience with species and similar ones: Have seen many rough legs + red tails but never this subspecies.References and persons consulted before writing description: —How long before field notes made? on spot this form completed? 1 Dec
(Copy of field notes)

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