

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? Hudsonian Godwit How many? 1Location? Spring Run - Dickinson CountyType of habitat? Wetlands - mudflatWhen? date(s): Oct 19, 1995 time: _____ to _____Who? your name and address: Ed Thelen RR 8725 SPIRIT LAKE IOWA 51360

others 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.

On Oct 19, 1995 I observed a large-size wading bird almost twice as big as nearby pectoral sandpipers. It had a very long tapered bill which was upturned. Its bill was two-toned - darker on the posterior end.

I identified it as a hudsonian godwit by the black axillars and dark underwing coverts.

I also observed a white rump on the bird.

At the time I didn't notice the whitish outer wing lines.

I video-taped the bird and subsequent viewing of the tape showed some white on the outer wings when the bird flew. The (over)

Similar species and how eliminated:

white rump eliminated marbled godwit

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? _____

If yes, explain:

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

Fair - 100-150 ft (est.)

Cloudy Bright - very windy

Previous experience with species and similar ones: Seen in spring in past years

References and persons consulted before writing description:

while viewing bird consulted Peterson's bird guide

How long before field notes made? video-taped this form completed? 2 1/2 months

no field notes

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

bird showed an injured leg which might explain its occurrence in fall, although its flight was strong.

Location: _____
Type of habitat: _____
When? date(s): _____
Who? your name and address: _____
Others with you: _____
Others before or after you: _____

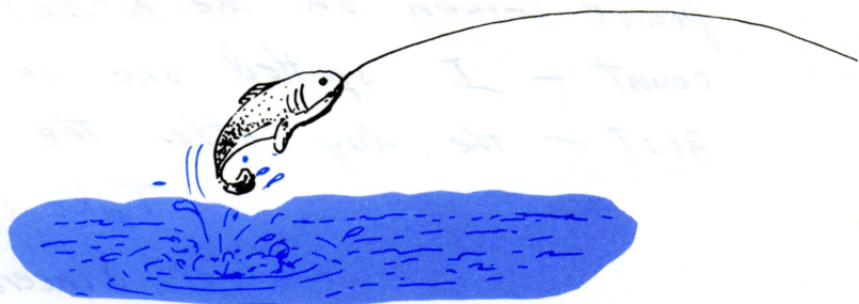
Describe the bird(s) including only what you observed. Include size, shape, details of all parts (bill, eye, head, neck, back, wing, tail, throat, breast, belly, under parts, legs, feet, claws, etc.)

On Oct 19, 1982 I observed a large-202
bird, about twice as big as a
pintail. It had a very long
broad bill which was upturned. Its bill
was two-toned - darker on the posterior end.
I identified it as a Red-tailed
Toucan. I also observed a white rump on the bird.
At the time I didn't notice the white on
wing inner.
I video-taped the bird and subsequent views
at the lake showed some white on the outer wing
when the bird flew. (over)

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

Viewing conditions: (time, lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment):
Fair - 100-150 ft (est.)

Persons experienced with species and similar ones: Seen in spring in past years.
References and persons consulted before writing description: _____
How long before field notes were made? This form completed? _____
Date: _____



CATCH THIS...

TOM,

My video of The
hudsonian godwit
shows the white rump
clearly with the white
wing stripes not as
clear, although at
The end of the
video they can be
seen. I will send
a copy of the
video to you
within a week.

On another note

(over)

we just missed getting a
prairie falcon on the X-mas
count - I spotted one on the
31st - the day after the count.

Take care

Sincerely,

Gd Thelen