

In case you haven't
seen this

DOCUMENTATION FORM

SPECIES: Sandhill Crane (*Grus canadensis*)

HOW MANY: One and possibly two

LOCATION: Saylorville Lake, Cherry Glen boat ramp,
Polk County, Iowa

HABITAT: Barren fields, wooded slopes, lake

DATE: 11/25/88

TIME: 12:03 P.M., C.S.T.

OBSERVER'S NAME &
ADDRESS: Reid Allen, 1601 Pleasant Street
West Des Moines, IA 50265

OTHERS WHO SAW BIRD: Pam Allen

DESCRIPTION OF BIRD: Very large grey bird with long, straight body
line in flight with legs extending well
beyond end of tail. Crown on top of head was
reddish brown. The bird was heard calling
before it appeared in sight. Its call was
very loud and "gargled gradedly." It did not
land.

SIMILAR SPECIES AND
HOW ELIMINATED: Great Blue Heron have curved necks in flight
and swans or geese do not have legs which
extend beyond tail. Also, loudness and
clarity of call was unmistakable.

VIEWING CONDITIONS
AND EQUIPMENT: Cloudy skies. 10 x 40 Agfa binoculars; 7 x
35 Bushnell binoculars; and, Bushnell Space-
master II scope on tripod with 22x wide angle
lens

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE
WITH SPECIES: Have seen them in Florida in March of 1976
and in Texas in December of 1983.

REFERENCES CONSULTED: A Golden Guide to Field Identification of
Birds of Norther America. Chandler S.

Robbins, et al. 1983.

Field Guide to the Birds of North America.
National Geographic Society. Second edition,
second printing. 1988.

Iowa Birds. James J. Dinsmore, et al. The
Iowa State University Press. 1984.

A Field Guide to Bird Songs of Eastern and
Central North America. Cornell Laboratory of
Ornithology. Second edition. 1983.

HOW LONG BEFORE
FIELD NOTES MADE:

As we were viewing bird.

HOW LONG BEFORE THIS
FORM COMPLETED:

We have not "documented" a bird before and
just received guidelines for this form today
in the mail from Dr. James Dinsmore, Iowa
State University (11/30/88).