

✓ Ehresman

DOCUMENTATION FORM
Extraordinary Bird Sightings
In Iowa

Species? Common Barn Owl No. 1
Location Boone County, Jackson Township (T-84N, R-25W) Sec. 11+14
Habitat Corn / Beans / oats - grassy roadside
Date(s) 8 July 1983 Time: 6:50 PM to 7:00 PM
Name and Address: Bruce Ehresman, R4, Box 290, Boone, Ia.
Other Observers: Marlene Ehresman " " " " "

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 behavior and voice.

We were driving on a gravel road going east when the bird flew across road about 125 yds. in front of us. Body appeared rusty colored on upper parts and light underneath; very short tail; wide wingspan for body size. Was flying low to ground with regular wingbeats. It landed on fence-row post ~ 200 yds away, and I viewed it with a 210mm. lens on 35mm camera. No ear tufts; ~ 18" tall; upper body appeared golden in sunlight. When bird flew, sunlight behind reflected white on all underparts including wings and face.

Similar species and how eliminated:

Barred owl is larger and gray.
Great Horned owl is larger, has ear tufts, and not pure white on all underparts.
Short-eared owl has darker face and black wrist patches.

Did anyone disagree or have reservations about identification? No

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment: Good; sun behind us illuminating the bird. Used 210mm. lens on 35mm. camera for viewing bird sitting on post & measuring distance.

Previous experience with species and similar ones: I work with barn owls nearly every day - breeding them in captivity and placing them around the State as part of the ICC's restoration program.
References and persons consulted before writing description:

Peterson's - Field Guide to the Birds East of the Rockies

How long before field notes made? immediately this form completed? 3 days later

Note: A family of barn owls was banded and released near Kellogg (Rock Cr. St. Pk.) 7 June 1983. It is unlikely the owl we saw was one of those released, however!

Mail to: T. H. Kent, Field Reports Editor, 211 Richards Street, Iowa City, Iowa 52240

Iowa Ornithologists' Union
FIELD CHECKLIST OF IOWA BIRDS

Revised 1982

* note details of identification

** provide full documentation

local (area), document if

away from usual location

Also, document birds that are not listed and those distinctly out of season.

Send reports to Field Reports

Editor of Iowa Bird Life.

GAVIIDAE

Common Loon

PODICIPEDIDAE

Pied-billed Grebe

Horned Grebe

Eared Grebe

Western Grebe

PELECANIDAE

Am. White Pelican

PHALACROCORACIDAE

Double-crstd Cormorant

ARDEIDAE

Am. Bittern

Least Bittern

Great Blue Heron

Great Egret

Little Blue Heron

Cattle Egret

Green-backed Heron

Blk-crwnd Night-Heron

Yllw-crwnd Night-Heron

ANATIDAE

Tundra Swan

Mute Swan

Gr. White-fronted Goose

Snow Goose

Ross' Goose

Canada Goose

Wood Duck

Green-winged Teal

Am. Black Duck

Mallard

N. Pintail

Blue-winged Teal

Cinnamon Teal

N. Shoveler

Gadwall

Am. Wigeon

Canvasback

Redhead

Ring-necked Duck

**Greater Scaup

Lesser Scaup

Oldsquaw

**White-winged Scoter

Common Goldeneye

Bufflehead

Hooded Merganser

Common Merganser

Red-breasted Merganser

Ruddy Duck

CATHARTIDAE

Turkey Vulture

ACCIPITRIDAE

Osprey

Bald Eagle

N. Harrier

Sharp-shinned Hawk

Cooper's Hawk

**N. Goshawk

Red-shouldered Hawk

Broad-winged Hawk

Swainson's Hawk

Red-tailed Hawk

Rough-legged Hawk

#Golden Eagle (NE)

FALCONIDAE

Am. Kestrel

**Merlin

**Peregrine Falcon

PHASIANIDAE

#Gray Partridge (N)

Ring-necked Pheasant

#Ruffed Grouse (NE)

Wild Turkey

N. Bobwhite

RALLIDAE

Virginia Rail

Sora

Common Moorhen

Am. Coot

CHARADRIIDAE

Black-bellied Plover

Lesser Golden Plover

Semipalmated Plover

Piping Plover

Killdeer

RECURVIROSTRIDAE

Am. Avocet

SCOLOPACIDAE

Greater Yellowlegs

Lesser Yellowlegs

Solitary Sandpiper

Willet

Spotted Sandpiper

Upland Sandpiper

Hudsonian Godwit

Marbled Godwit

Ruddy Turnstone

Sanderling

Semipalmated Sandpiper

*Western Sandpiper

Least Sandpiper

White-rumped Sandpiper

Baird's Sandpiper

Pectoral Sandpiper

Dunlin

Stilt Sandpiper

*Short-billed Dowitcher

*Long-billed Dowitcher

Common Snipe

Am. Woodcock

Wilson's Phalarope

Red-necked Phalarope

LARIDAE

Franklin's Gull

Bonaparte's Gull

Ring-billed Gull

Herring Gull

**Glaucous Gull

Caspian Tern

*Common Tern

Forster's Tern

Least Tern

Black Tern

COLUMBIDAE

Rock Dove

Mourning Dove

CUCULIDAE

Black-billed Cuckoo

Yellow-billed Cuckoo

TYTONIDAE

Common Barn-Owl

STRIGIDAE

Eastern Screech-Owl

Great Horned Owl

Snowy Owl

Barred Owl

Long-eared Owl

Short-eared Owl

N. Saw-whet Owl

CAPRIMULGIDAE

Common Nighthawk

#Chuck-will's-widow (S)

Whip-poor-will

APODIDAE

Chimney Swift

TROCHILIDAE

Ruby-thrtd Hummingbird

ALCEDINIDAE

Belted Kingfisher

PICTIDAE

Red-headed Woodpecker

Red-bellied Woodpecker

Yellow-bldd Sapsucker

Downy Woodpecker

Hairy Woodpecker

N. Flicker

Pileated Woodpecker

TYRANNIDAE

Olive-sided Flycatcher

Eastern Wood-Pewee

*Yellow-bldd Flycatcher

Acadian Flycatcher

*Alder Flycatcher

Willow Flycatcher

Least Flycatcher

Eastern Phoebe

#Say's Phoebe (NW)

Great Crstd Flycatcher

#Western Kingbird (W)

Eastern Kingbird

ALAUDIDAE

Horned Lark

HIRUNDINIDAE

Purple Martin

Tree Swallow

N. Rough-winged Swallow

Bank Swallow

Cliff Swallow

Barn Swallow

WEATHER:

OBSERVERS:

DATE:

TIME:

LOCATIONS:

CORVIDAE

Blue Jay

Am. Crow

PARIDAE

Black-capped Chickadee

Tufted Titmouse

SITTIDAE

Red-breasted Nuthatch

White-breasted Nuthatch

CERTHIDAE

Brown Creeper

TROGLODYTIDAE

Carolina Wren

House Wren

Winter Wren

Sedge Wren

Marsh Wren

MUSCICAPIDAE

Golden-crowned Kinglet

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

Eastern Bluebird

**Townsend's Solitaire

Veery

Gray-cheeked Thrush

Swainson's Thrush

Hermit Thrush

Wood Thrush

Am. Robin

**Varied Thrush

MIMIDAE

Gray Catbird

N. Mockingbird

Brown Thrasher

MOTACILLIDAE

Water Pipit

BOMBYCILLIDAE

Cedar Waxwing

LANTIDAE

*Northern Shrike

Loggerhead Shrike

STURNIDAE

European Starling

VIREONIDAE

White-eyed Vireo

Bell's Vireo

Solitary Vireo

Yellow-throated Vireo

Warbling Vireo

Philadelphia Vireo

Red-eyed Vireo

EMBERIZIDAE

Blue-winged Warbler

Golden-winged Warbler

Tennessee Warbler

Orange-crowned Warbler

Nashville Warbler

Northern Parula

Yellow Warbler

Chestnut-sided Warbler

Magnolia Warbler

Cape May Warbler

Blk-thrtd Blue Warbler

Yellow-rumped Warbler

Blk-thrtd Green Warbler

Blackburnian Warbler

Yellow-throated Warbler

**Pine Warbler

Palm Warbler

Bay-breasted Warbler

Blackpoll Warbler

Cerulean Warbler

Black-and-white Warbler

Am. Redstart

Prothonotary Warbler

Worm-eating Warbler

Ovenbird

Northern Waterthrush

Louisiana Waterthrush

Kentucky Warbler

Connecticut Warbler

Mourning Warbler

Common Yellowthroat

Hooded Warbler

Wilson's Warbler

Canada Warbler

Yellow-breasted Chat

THRAUPINAE

#Summer Tanager (S)

Scarlet Tanager

CARDINALINAE

N. Cardinal

Rose-breasted Grosbeak

#Blue Grosbeak (W)

Indigo Bunting

Dickcissel

EMBERIZINAE

Rufous-sided Towhee

Am. Tree Sparrow

Chipping Sparrow

Clay-colored Sparrow

Field Sparrow

Vesper Sparrow

Lark Sparrow