

HANSEN

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? Goshawk How many? one

Location? St. Ansgar, Iowa (Mitchell County)

Type of habitat? forested area near river

When? date(s): Sept. 22, 1982 time: unknown (see below)
to _____

Who? your name and address: James L. Hansen, Iowa Conservation Commission,
1203 N. Shore Drive, Clear Lake, Iowa 50428

others with you: _____

others before or after you: Al Roemig, Osage ; Guy Zenner, Northwood ;
Bob Wesselman, Northwood

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.

The bird flew against a house window on the edge of St. Ansgar. It was brought to me ^{Sept. 24,} alive, but unable to fly, by Al Roemig, Conservation Officer, from Osage. There appeared to be no broken bones, but the bird had either lost its sense of balance or was partially paralyzed. I took it to Bob Wesselman of Northwood, who is licensed to care for wild birds and has had a lot of experience with raptors. After five days of care and feeding, the goshawk flew from the open-top pen and was not seen again.

The bird matched perfectly the pictures and description of a male goshawk in Birds of North America, including white eye stripe, gray lightly-streaked breast, and white fluffy undertail coverts. It gave a loud, piercing cry as it tried to escape outdoors.

I took a picture of it lying on the parking lot but have not yet gotten the roll processed.

Similar species and how eliminated:

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? No

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment:
in-hand identification

Previous experience with species and similar ones: first one I have seen

References and persons consulted before writing description: Birds of North America,
Robbins et al.

How long before field notes made? none made this form completed? seven days

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

HANSON

What species? _____

Location: _____

10-1-82

Tom: I thought I'd send this one to you now, even though I may have more later.

If you'd like a duplicate of the slide, I can send you one later. It won't do justice to such a beautiful bird, though!

Jim Hansen