

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? Northern Goshawk (Accipiter gentilis) How many? 1 (adult)Location? Wendell Tuttle Farm 2 mi West of Corydon, Wayne County, IowaType of habitat? Brushy creek surrounded by Corn and Soybean fieldsWhen? date(s): November 27, 1982 time: 11:10 to 11:13Who? your name and address: Francis L. Moore, 264 Western Ave., Waterloo, IA 50701others with you: Noothers before or after you: No

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.

I was hunting Ring-necked Pheasant and Common Bobwhite on the Wendell Tuttle farm and noticed a ~~large~~ large hawk to the south of me flying parallel to a stand of Osage Orange trees. It was flying to the East when it turned and flew toward my position. As it came toward me it had the typical shape of an accipiter. As it flew approximately 50 to 75 feet above me I could easily see the bird had a clean gray slightly barred breast and a large white stripe above its eye. As it flew away it looked as if its undertail coverts were sticking out on each side of its tail, they were also white. The back was an overall steel gray color and the wings were dark gray to black color. The bird's tail was long and lightly banded and appeared to be a medium gray on top.

Similar species and how eliminated: Coopers Hawk does not have a white eye stripe or white fluffy white undertail coverts. Coopers also has a reddish barring to the breast in the adult plumage and is browner above not gray.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? No

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment:
At time of sighting it was sunny. Bird (at closest) was approx. 50 to 75 feet away viewed with 7X35 Bausch and Lomb binoculars.

Previous experience with species and similar ones: I have seen several N. Goshawks in the past few months and many Coopers Hawks.

References and persons consulted before writing description: NoneHow long before field notes made? 5 hours this form completed? 8 hours.

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