

DOCUMENTATION FORM

Species How many? **LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL - 1**
 Location? **TRICKLE SLOUGH, SPIRIT LAKE, DICKINSON COUNTY**
 Type of habitat? **SANDY POINT SURROUNDED BY OPEN WATER**
 When? date(s): **11/16/99** Time: **.2:40 - 3:10 PM**
 Who? your name and address **LEE A. SCHOENEWE**
518 W. 4th ST SPENCER, IA 51301

Others with you **GARY BRANGE**

Others before and after you **NONE**

Describe the bird(s) including only what you observed. Include size, shape, details of all parts (bill, head, neck, back, wing, tail, throat, breast, belly, under tail, legs, feet). Also describe voice and behavior. **OBSERVED AN IMMATURE GULL SLIGHTLY SMALLER THAN NEARBY HERRING GULLS WITH A MORE ELONGATED SHAPE; LIGHTER BREAST AND HEAD WITH A DARK EYE AND A DARK SMUDGE THROUGH THE EYE; THE BILL APPEARED LONGER WITH A PALE PINK BASE AND A DARK TIP, AND A SLOPING FORE-HEAD. WHEN SEEN IN FLIGHT THE TAIL HAD A DARK TERMINAL BAND WITH A WHITE RUMP THAT CONTRASTED WITH A BROWN, SCALY BACK AND WINGS. THE WINGS HAD DARK PRIMARIES AND A DARK TRAILING EDGE TO THE SECONDARIES. THE WINGS WERE LONG**

Similar species and how eliminated: **GREATER BLACK-BACKED - SIZE RELATIVE TO HERRING GULLS; HERRING/THAYERS - FLIGHT PATTERN + LONG WINGS IN FLIGHT + PERCHED**

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? **NO**

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment: **80-100 YDS; ~~EARLY~~ AFTERNOON SUN; 8X40 BINOCULARS 20X-60X SCOPE**

Previous experience with this species and similar ones:

ONE ADULT + ONE IMMATURE PRIOR SIGHTINGS

References and persons consulted before writing description:

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC FIELD GUIDE

How long before field notes made? **IMMEDIATELY**
 this form completed? **2 HOURS**

Mail original form to field editor for this season.

**BIRD ALSO SEEN 11/11/99 @ Gull Pt. Sp. W. LAKE OKOBOSI
 AND 11/21/99 @ Manhattan Pt. on W. LAKE OKOBOSI**