

DOCUMENTATION FORM

Species How many? THAYER'S GULL - 1 IMMATURE

Location?_ SOUTH SHORE OF SPIRIT LAKE, DICKINSON CO.

Type of habitat? NATURAL LAKE SHORE

When? date(s): 11/9/97 Time: .

Who? your name and address LEE A. SCHONEWE
518 W. 4th ST, SPENCER, IA. 51301

Others with you EUGENE AND ELOISE ARMSTRONG

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 A LARGE GULL WITH AN OVERALL LIGHT BROWN COLORING. THE EYE WAS DARK WITH A PATCH AROUND THE EYE SOMEWHAT DARKER THAN THE REST OF THE HEAD. THE BILL WAS MOSTLY DARK WITH A SLIGHT SHADING TO GRAY AT THE BASE. IN FLIGHT THE PRIMARIES, SECONDARIES, BACK AND TAIL WERE A UNIFORM WARM BROWN COLOR, AS THE BIRD FLEW DOWN THE BEACH AND LANDED NEAR SOME HERRING GULLS, THE SIZE WAS CLOSE.

Similar species and how eliminated: HERRING GULL - LACK OF DARK COLOR IN PRIMARIES + TAIL; GLAUCOUS - SIZE; ICELAND - OVERALL GRAY-BROWN TINGE

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? NO

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment: OVERCAST, 50-100 YDS, 8X40 BINOCULARS
20x-BOX SCOPE

Previous experience with this species and similar ones:

IM. HERRING + GLAUCOUS GULLS; PRIOR ADULT THAYER'S

References and persons consulted before writing description:

How long before field notes made? IMMEDIATELY
this form completed? 5 HOURS

Mail original form to field editor for this season.