

## DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? NORTHERN GOSHAWK How many? 1Location? 4 miles S.W. OF PLEASANTVILLE MARION COUNTYType of habitat? PINE GROVE, ~ 5 ACRES; TREES ~ 25 FEET TALLWhen? date(s): 7 JAN 1983 time: 0930 to 0935Who? your name and address: ROBERT THORNBURG R.R. 2 PLEASANTVILLE IOWA  
50225

others with you: \_\_\_\_\_

others before or after you: \_\_\_\_\_

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.

a very large bird, long bodied, but slim and not bulky. I was observing a sharp-shinned hawk when I saw this other bird sitting ~ 10 feet away, giving an excellent size comparison. The bill was gray and the eyes were a bright red. The rather large head was dark gray on top and the black eye stripe with white above was very visible. I did not get a good look at the back, but it appeared to be a dark gray. The wings were quite large for such a slim bird. The tail was long and very faintly striped. The breast was snow white with a few dark streaks. The breast was so white that white fluff under the tail did not really show up. The legs were quite long and bright yellow.

The bird was silent. It did raise one leg up and stretch it out in front of it as if it were exercising or testing the leg. It did this just before it flew.

Similar species and how eliminated: Cooper's Hawk could not have been so large or had the head markings. The head and bright red eyes and size left little doubt as to the bird's identity.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment:

The day was overcast, but the bird was sitting in the open in good light. The bird was 75 feet away (est.) seen with 10X50 binoculars

Previous experience with species and similar ones: I saw an immature of this species on 6 FEB 1981

References and persons consulted before writing description: NONE

How long before field notes made? 30 minutes this form completed? 2 HOURS

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