

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? Goshawk (imm.) How many? 1Location? Cedar Falls (Black Hawk County)Type of habitat? River bottom timber along Cedar Riv.When? date(s): Dec. 26, 1981 time: 11:40 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.Who? your name and address: Robert K. Myers, 1236 Sylvia Ave., Waterloo, Iowaothers with you: Francis Moore

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.

The bird was sitting high in a tree across the Cedar River from us and always had its back to us. I would turn its ~~head~~^{head} from side to side.

The size was large—bigger than a crow—about like red-tail hawk. Even at the long distance it looked big.

Shape was relatively slender—not chunky like red-tail. Had long tail.

The back was basically brownish with a few white looking spots. The tail had at least 3^{dark} bars that could be seen as it stuck out from under wings. The neck + back of head had some fine longitudinal streaks. Sides of head showed a white eye-stripe over eye.

The under tail coverts seemed very bulky as they stuck out on both sides of the tail.

Similar species and how eliminated: large size and white eye stripe and very fluffy under tail coverts eliminated the Cooper's hawk

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? NO

If yes, explain:

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

Light was good—bright day—dis. was at least 200 yds. — we used spotting scopes (Bushnell) at 20X + 40X

Previous experience with species and similar ones: 4th goshawk this fall

References and persons consulted before writing description:

How long before field notes made? 5 hr. this form completed? 1 day

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