

BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD.

1. Species Snowy Owl 2. Number: 1

3. Location Story Co. 2 mi W. of Nevada, along Hwy 30

4. Date: Mar 25, 1982 5. Time Bird seen: 6:00 pm to 6:25 pm.

6. Description of size, shape and color-pattern (describe in great detail all parts of the plumage, and beak and feet coloration, in addition, to the diagnostic characteristics, but include only what actually was seen in the field):

large, nearly all white, tarsi feathered, round head, no 'ears' or 'horns'  
feathers on lower breast & belly tan-tipped

7. Description of voice, if heard: Not heard

8. Description of behavior: Flew up from ditch as I drove by. Flew to fence post. Flew from post & hovered for up to 30 sec. on 2 sep occasions (new experience for me)

9. Habitat - general: dived into grass after prey edict time from hovering  
specific: roadside ditch & adjacent agric. fields

10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7 & 8, Explain:

Short-eared Owl - flight completely different. faced dir. short 'ears'  
Great Horned Owl - } distinct 'horns' perching stance by different  
Arctic Horned Owl - }

11. Distance (how measured)?  
Seen at distances from 25' to 75' (estimated)

12. Optical equipment:  
8x binoculars

13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you):

14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species:

Considerable experience w/ owls, including large, "hornless" species.

15. Other observers: None

16. Did the others agree with your identification? N/A

17. Other observers who independently identified this bird: N/A

18. Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description:

none

9. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description?

Dean M. Rosa  
Signature

Address: Ames Ia

Date: Mar 25, 1982

City, State: \_\_\_\_\_