

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? Golden Eagle (immature) How many? 1Location? west of New Albin, Ia.Type of habitat? basically wooded hills and fairly open valleysWhen? date(s): Nov. 21, 1982 time: 10:30am to 10:35amWho? your name and address: Robert K. Myersothers with you: Francis Moore + 200 fall field trip

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 huge soaring bird was at once recognized as an eagle and the basically all dark color makes the choice between imm. bald + golden eagle.

This bird had a white tail with a dark terminal band and very noticeable golden feather on the neck. These factors rule out bald eagle and for that matter a dark phase rough-legged hawk which would also be much smaller.

Similar species and how eliminated: Imm. bald eagle does not have white tail with dark terminal band or the golden hackle on the neck

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? NO

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment:
Sun was behind us and bird was against blue sky (good light) - at least 200-300 yds.
by guess - 7X35 binocs + 25X spotting scope.

Previous experience with species and similar ones: I go there every year for golden eagles

References and persons consulted before writing description: NONE

How long before field notes made? 1 week this form completed? 1 week

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