

## DOCUMENTATION FORM

Species? Sandhill Crane

How Many? 3

Location? western Fremont Co.

Habitat? flying over corn stubble in the Missouri River valley

Date? 15 March, 1986

Time? 9:45 a.m.

Observers Name and address: Steve Dinsmore 4024 Arkansas Drive Ames, IA 50010

Others who saw bird: none

Description of bird: three large bird with long necks and legs. The necks were held straight out and not in an s-shape like a heron. Body color was gray. In flight, the birds gave the characteristic dry rattle of a Sandhill Crane.

Similar species and how eliminated: Great Blue Heron eliminated by the way the neck was held and by the call.

Viewing conditions and equipment: conditions were good and sun behind me. Estimated viewing distance was about 100 yards. I used Nikon 8x23 binoculars and a 20x spotting scope.

Previous experience with species: I have seen Sandhill Cranes in Florida and North Dakota, but never in Iowa.

References consulted: none

How long before field notes were made? none

How long before this form was completed? 3 weeks