

MAYFIELD

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? Yellow Rail How many? 1

Location? Doolittle Prairie / Story Co.

Type of habitat? prairie pothole.

When? date(s): 5/6/84 (6 May) time: about 10:00 AM. to                     

Who? your name and address: John Mayfield, 3306 Buchanan Ct., Ames IA.

others with you: No

others before or after you: No.

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.

*Small rail flushed at short range, seemed smaller than Sora.  
- small bill  
- pronounced white patches on each wing*

Similar species and how eliminated: *Both Sora & Virginia rails were also present.*

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? No.

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment:  
*Sunny or high overcast, 10-15 feet, binoculars*

Previous experience with species and similar ones: *Am familiar with Sora rail & Virginia rail.*

References and persons consulted before writing description:

How long before field notes made? 2 hours - this form completed? 1 day

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