

DOCUMENTATION FORM  
For Extraordinary Bird Sightings in Iowa

What Species? Black-legged Kittiwake How Many? 1

Location? Appanoose Co. Centerville City Reservoir

Type of Habitat? Fairly large open water

When? date(s): November 26th 1988 time: 11:05AM to 11:11AM

Who? your name and address: Ray Cummins 609 S. Main St. Centerville, Ia. 52544

Others with you: \_\_\_\_\_

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, undertail, legs, & feet). Also mention voice and behavior.

A medium sized gull with the jest of a Ring-billed Gull. The median coverts to the mantle, wrist, outer primaries, auricular spot, thick nape band around complete upper half, and terminal tailband were all deep black. The nape band came further down the sides and was much more prominent than I expected. The tail looked straight most of the time but once or twice it looked both slightly forked and rounded. It was definitely not rounded like a ring-billed gull. The bird was in first winter plumage.

Similar species; how eliminated: Size eliminates little gull, thick black nape everything else.

Did anyone disagree or have reservations about the identification? no  
If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), optical equipment. 10x50 Nikon binoculars in good light (cloudy but good contrast) estimated 100 to 500yds.

Previous experience with species and similar ones: recently viewed several thousands of gull over the last several weekends. Have expected to see this bird for sometime and was very familiar with it's field marks.

Reference and persons consulted before writing description: Harrison's Seabirds

How long before field notes made? 11 Hrs This form completed? 11 Hrs