

DOCUMENTATION FORM  
For Extraordinary Bird Sightings in Iowa

What species? Golden Eagle Aquila chrysaetos How many? 1  
Location? White Pine Hollow Dubuque County Iowa  
Type of Habitat? Stream valley bordered by steep bluffs in woodland  
When? date(s): October 25, 1989 time: observed for about 30 sec. about noon to  
Who? your name and address: MARK D. ROUW 1202 E. Sheridan, Des Moines, IA 50316  
Others with you: None  
Others before or after you: None

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 large eagle sized bird was observed circling directly overhead. It had a white patch at the base of the primaries on the wings. The base of the tail was also white with the tip of the tail dark. Except for the windows in the wings and the light tail the bird appeared dark. The wings were long and the head and beak did not protrude very much.

Similar species; how eliminated: Immature bald eagle was eliminated because of this birds distinctive white patches and shorter beak.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about the identification? \_\_\_\_\_  
If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), optical equipment.

Probably over one hundred yards away but the ~~skies~~ sky was clear and I had a good unobstructed view.

Previous experience with species and similar ones:

Little experience with golden eagles but I have seen quite a few bald eagles.

References and persons consulted before writing description:

Peterson Field Guide "Birds East of Rockies"

How long before field notes made? No notes this form completed? eight days

Send completed form to Field Reports or CBC editor (address on back cover of Iowa Bird Life).

T.H. Kent, 211 Richards St., Iowa City, IA. 52246