

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? Sandhill Crane How many? 1Location? S.E. corner of Big Marsh, Butler Co., IowaType of habitat? Open dry marsh areaWhen? date(s): March 29, 1985 time: 7:15 am to —Who? your name and address: Francis L. Moore, 336 Fairfield St., Waterloo, IA 50703others with you: Roberk Myersothers before or after you: Class from University of N. Iowa the afternoon before

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.

A class (Field Zoology, I think) from U.N.I. had been to Big Marsh on 3/28/85 and saw two large birds they were sure were Sandhill Cranes. Bob Myers and myself were walking across the S.E. side of marsh when we heard one loud call that could only be that of a Sandhill Crane. We both heard the bird independently ~~for~~ about when we were about 50 yards apart. We both yelled out simultaneously "Sandhill Crane" to get the others attention. The bird we heard was never seen, and it only called once. Both Bob and myself have heard thousands of Sandhill Cranes in Nebraska near the North Platte River.

Similar species and how eliminated: No other bird that I know of sounds like a Sandhill Crane.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? No

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment:
Sunny, calm, not seenPrevious experience with species and similar ones: Have heard thousands of Sandhill Cranes in Nebraska near North Platte River
References and persons consulted before writing description: NoneHow long before field notes made? None made this form completed? 4 hours

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