

Bierman

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? NORTHERN GOSHAWK How many? 1

Location? 3 miles northwest of the town of Cherokee

Type of habitat? Red Cedar and oak timber

When? date(s)? January 15, 1984 time: 2:45 to 2:47

Who? your name and address: Dick Bierman 901 Harris Cherokee Iowa

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.

The bird flew by me at right angle about 100 yards away. It had a steel gray blue back and wings on top, and a whitish underside, (No rust color). I was able to get on him fast enough with my spotting scope to see the white eyebrow stripe.

AND
The bird had a faster wing beat than a Redtail and was smaller, about crow sized. It had a narrow tail, longer than a buetos, and rather short rounded wings. It flew low over a bird feeding station scattering the birds and disappeared into the cedar trees.

Similar species and how eliminated: Coopers and Sharpshinned hawks, this was an adult bird and it didnot have the rust colored barring on the chest that they do. Falcons have narrow pointed wings. Male Northern Harriers are lighter and have a white rump patch.

Did anyone disagree or have reservations about the identification? No

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment: Sunny, from beh nd me, good light. distance estimated. 15x60 spotting scope

Previous experience with this species and similar ones: I have seen this specie several times before in Iowa and Wyoming.

References and persons consulted before writing description: Petersons Eastern Field Guide, 1982 edition.

How long before field notes made? 45 min. This form cpmpleted? 45 min.