

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? Northern Goshawk (adult) How many? 1Location? Yellow River Forest (Headquarters), Allamakee Co., IowaType of habitat? Mostly mature Maple/Basswood, with some farmland.When? date(s): Nov. 21, 1982 time: 1:30 to 1:35 p.m.Who? your name and address: Joseph P. Schaufenbuel, 924 Pammel Ct. Ames IA
50010others with you: W. Ross Silcock, Barb Wilson.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, under tail, legs, feet). Also mention voice and behavior.

A large hawk (near size of Red-tail) was observed soaring about 175 to 250 feet above three observers. The bird appeared to be long-tailed with short (compared to Red tail) wings. The bird appeared much more heavily built than a Cooper's Hawk. Only the underparts were noted: Uniform light gray on all of throat, chest, belly, with a distinct white crissum contrasting with lower belly and tail. Wings were also uniformly colored with no wrist mark or



Black or darkening at tips. Primaries were not fingered. Tail was long and slightly wedge-shaped and had dull gray and darker ~~er~~ gray banding. The flap was shallow and stiff unlike any Buteo and much slower than the Cooper's Hawk.

Similar species and how eliminated: Buteos; rather long tail, short wings. Uniform gray under parts. Cooper's Hawk: Too large, gray, and flapped too slowly.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? No

If yes, explain:

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

7x35 binoculars: light was good, with bright sun, though bird was slightly in sun.

Previous experience with species and similar ones: I have observed 6 Goshawks previously, 2 of which soared, nearly exactly like this bird in shape and actions.

References and persons consulted before writing description:

How long before field notes made? 6 hours this form completed? same

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Joe P. Schaufenbuel