

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? glaucous gull 1st or 2nd - w How many? 1Location? 1 mi E of Sand Pt, Coralville Reservoir, Johnson Co IAType of habitat? reservoirWhen? date(s): 11-25-84 time: _____ to _____Who? your name and address: Mike Newton 408 Water St Iowa City IA 52240

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, under tail, legs, feet). Also mention voice and behavior.

large gull - as long at the waterline as Herring (next to it) but much bulkier in body, head, neck, bill.
 body whitish with pinkish-buff cast, speckled with sparse fine mottlings. Primaries and tail white, unmarked. Bill pinkish-white, dark for distal 1/4.

Swimming in large flock of gulls (~1900 ring-bills, ~100 Herring); in 'feeding frenzy' would unfold wings, take one downstroke to lift off water, arch downward in shallow plunge dive. Caught several small fish. Was not observed to be aggressive to other gulls.

Similar species and how eliminated: innoculate primaries + bill diagnostic.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? _____

If yes, explain: _____

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment:
~50 yds, 25X60 scopePrevious experience with species and similar ones: seen many - MA, IA, Manit, TX

References and persons consulted before writing description: _____

How long before field notes made? on spot this form completed? 11-25

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