

## DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? peregrine falcon, ad How many? 1Location? Coralville Reservoir, Johnson Co, IA.Type of habitat? field at edge of large reservoir floodplainWhen? date(s): 9-29-89 time: 9 AM to 9:20 AM  
12:30 PM to 12:40 PMWho? your name and address: Mobie Newton 408 Wales Iowa City IA 52240others 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 falcon - crow sized with big head + chest, long wings, primaries reaching tail-tip; tail long, square-tipped.

above: crown + nape dark blue-grey; upper parts same, cross-banded with black.

primaries + tail: black

face + throat white; dark of crown extending ventrally through face from bill to rear edge of eye as dark bar, ending low on face.

underparts pale, mottled with dark <sup>bars</sup> on breast.

flushed from isolated cottonwood; flew with rapid shallow flicking wingstrokes; in profile could see the deep chest tapering to the narrow belly. wings long, pointed. Seen later, soaring: wings long, pointed at tip, held straight out from body. trailing edge straight from base to tip, all taper in anterior edge. soared high, then drifted east, plunged below tree-line in a tremendous vertical stoop, came up empty-taloned, flew off east - deep rowing wingbeats.

Similar species and how eliminated: size, build, color, face pattern diagnosticDid any one disagree or have reservations about identification? —

If yes, explain:

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

① 75 feet (est) w/ sun behind observer.

② soared high, into sun, then moved away, into good light - 100 yds to 1 mi.

Previous experience with species and similar ones: 25 X 60 Scope 8 X 40 binocs  
pr. falcon, 2 yrs. have seen many; alsoReferences and persons consulted before writing description: —How long before field notes made? on spot this form completed? 11-25

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