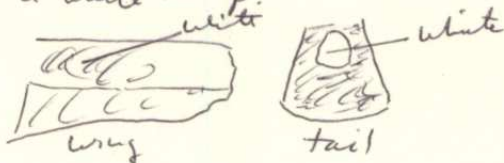


BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF
AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD

1. Species Bald Eagle - immature 2. Number 1
3. Location Coralville Reservoir Iowa
4. Date: 8-4-79 5. Time Bird Seen: 2³⁰ to 2⁴⁰

6. Description of size, shape and color-pattern (describe in great detail all parts of the plumage, and beak and feet coloration, in addition, to the diagnostic characteristics, but include only what actually was seen in the field):

Sailing bates nearly as large in wingspan as Great Blue Heron which were flying nearby. Large curved eagle beak. All dark except splotchy white under wing coverts. Primaries and secondaries dark. Minimal white flecks in wing from above. Tail all dark from below. White spot on tail from above - completely surrounded by dark - not a white rump.



7. Description of voice, if heard: not heard
8. Description of behavior: soaring + flying
9. Habitat - general: over wide area of reservoir - area with many dead trees
specific: seen from sand point - 1 mile north of Swan Lake, Johnson Co IA
10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7 & 8. Explain:
Location of white areas do not fit immature golden eagle. Bald eagles are commonly seen here in season
11. Distance (how measured)? 200-300 yds (est)
12. Optical equipment: 8x40 Thruvud 20x scope
13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you):
Clear sky - sun behind me
14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species:
Often seen in season
15. Other observers:
Nick Holmi and Tom Shires saw an eagle in this area on 7-29 + 8-4 respectively - identified as golden eagle
16. Did the others agree with your identification? no
17. Other observers who independently identified this bird:
18. Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description:
Robbins while watching the bird

19. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description? 1 hour
Signature: Thomas H Kent Address: 211 Rockcuds St.
Date: 8-4-79 City, State: Iowa City IA