

DOCUMENTATION FORM
For Extraordinary Bird Sightings in Iowa

What species? Thayer's Gull How many? 1 ad

Location? Lock & Dam #15, Davenport, IA

Type of Habitat? Mississippi River

When? date(s): 17 January 1992 time: 3³⁰ to 3³⁵

Who? your name and address: Thomas H. Kent, 211 Richards St, Iowa City, IA 52246

Others with you: Jim Fuller

Others before or after you: Jim Fuller + others

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.

Gull was flying with Herring Gulls below dam. Tail, body, and underwing white. Only slight gray at wing tip from below. Upper wing light gray (about same as adult Herring) with less than half as much black at tip as on Herring. Sometimes the tip looked gray rather than black. Mirror in out primary and white tips to primaries. The bird appeared slightly smaller and slimmer than Herrings. Legs pink. Eye color not seen.

Similar species; how eliminated: Herring Gull - see above

Did any one disagree or have reservations about the identification? no

If yes, explain: Jim has seen this bird several times and has seen dark eye.

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

Shiny with light behind. 50-75 yards. 10x binocular.

Previous experience with species and similar ones: I have only seen one adult before.

References and persons consulted before writing description: none

How long before field notes made? 2 hrs this form completed? ✓

Send completed form to Field Reports or CBC editor (address on back cover of Iowa Bird Life).