

GERALD WHITE

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? Yellow Rail How many? 1

Location? Field on East end of North dike at Cone Marsh

Type of habitat? Wet, grassy field (10" grass)

When? date(s): May 4, 1983 time: 7:00PM to 7:00PM

Who? your name and address: Gerald White 1505 E. 5th. St. Muscatine, IA 52761

others with you: Tim Dwyer - Muscatine

others before or after you: None

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.

I saw a rail shape bird fly with feet and legs hanging down, fly from my front to my right. The only descriptive marks I could make note of was a white stripe on the secondaries and half of the primaries as the ~~as~~ the bird turned away from me and prepared to land.

The bird was generally dark. (Medium)

The bird had a more direct or faster flight than the Sora I have seen.

The size was about that of a Sora, no comparison was at hand.

Similar species and how eliminated: No other rail has white on the wing

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? no

If yes, explain:

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

Sun was to the left, low and warm
bird was aprox. 25 Yds. I used no optics

Previous experience with species and similar ones: Life Bird

References and persons consulted before writing description: Tim Dwyer

How long before field notes made? 2 hrs. this form completed? 5/7/83

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