

## DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? King Rail How many? 1Location? McIntosh Wildlife Area, Cerro Gordo Co., IAType of habitat? Upland - prairieWhen? date(s): 06/10/86 time: approx. 10:00 to Who? your name and address: Mickey Hellickson, State Conservationothers with you: Commission, Clear Lake no one else saw birdothers 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 sized rail with rust colored breast and neck, strong, dark barring on sides with white between bars. Brown on back. White patch on throat and anterior to eye. Bill had slight curve and was quite long, legs were also long.

Similar species and how eliminated: Clapper Rail is similar but very uncommon in this areaDid any one disagree or have reservations about identification? no

If yes, explain:

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

The bird was caught in a live trap used for capturing predators (sm. mammals). So viewing conditions were excellent. Sunny; 1 foot (held trap to release); no optical equipment

Previous experience with species and similar ones:

Seen and recognized other common species within same order and family; completed ornithology and bird study at ISU

References and persons consulted before writing description:

How long before field notes made? 6 days this form completed? 06/17/86  
 Jim Hansen and Ted LaGrange