

## DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? PRAIRIE FALCON How many? 1Location? SE 1/4 Sec 33 Booth TWP Palo Alto Co NE 1/4 Sec 4 Swan Lake TWP Poc CoType of habitat? OPEN FARM LAND - SEVERAL EMPTY FARMsteads - SEVERAL LARGE PASTURES closeWhen? date(s): 1/25/88 2/1/88 time: 10:45 AM to 11:05 AMWho? your name and address: Judith Carlsonothers with you: Nelson Carlson Rita DeWall Ron & Pat Reese <sup>1/25</sup> Ron Haemsothers before or after you: Ron Reese - SEVERAL Times before <sup>1/25</sup>

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.

<sup>1/25</sup> - Bird WAS Perched in window of vacant BARN with back towards us looking over his shoulder at us. BROWN BACKED - Appeared Scaly. FAINT <sup>Light</sup> Eye brow. NARROW DARK Mustache - Not AS DARK OR wide as a peregrine. Throat WAS light colored - DARKER behind Eye. EAR PATCH - Cheek Light Eye WAS DARK.

TAIL Appeared to be FAINTLY Banded. Long + NARROW



<sup>2/1</sup> Bird Flew out of BARN where seen on the 25<sup>th</sup>. AXILLARIES DARK BROWN - Wing Linings also DARK. Belly Light with STREAKS. IT Creaked over head - Rather low. Could be seen very well with NAKED Eye. For once seen WASN'T behind bird but off to the side so had very good light.

Similar species and how eliminated: Size eliminated Am. Kestrel. Facial Patterns eliminated Peregrine falcon. Perched IT WAS ABOUT THE SAME size of Coopers Hawk or N. Goshawk - but head Pattern & Eye color was wrong.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? No

If yes, explain:

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

<sup>1/25</sup> - Clear Cold -2 to -5° Wind WNW 10-15 mph 75-100 yds Spotting Scope 10x-36x

<sup>2/1</sup> Clear overhead snow in air - Cold -2° to 0° Wind NW 15 mph - 20 mph

Previous experience with species and similar ones: HAVE NOT SEEN PRAIRIE FALCON before but have seen Peregrine's before - head Pattern much different.

References and persons consulted before writing description:

Audubon Society Guide to master breeding; NGS Birds of North America

How long before field notes made? 30 min this form completed? 2/1/88

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