

BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD.

1. Species Goshawk 2. Number: 1

3. Location NW end of Big Creek State Park, Polk County

4. Date: November 21, 1981 5. Time Bird seen: ten minutes between 9-10 AM to

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): Bird size of red-tailed hawk, long tail with black on tip then brown then black then brown etc., back brown reddish brown at nape of neck, head brown, neck and breast white with brown spots

IT EXTENDED CONSIDERABLY BELOW THE BODY

7. Description of voice, if heard:

8. Description of behavior: bird first seen on ground eating a pheasant, bird then flew to nearby tree about eight feet up as I watched.

9. Habitat - general: Bird zigged & zagged through the trees to next perch
specific: lake edge 100 yards away.
overgrown pasture

10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7 & 8, Explain:
Cooper's hawk eliminated because of size, this bird was much larger

11. Distance (how measured)? 30 yards (estimate) 12. Optical equipment: 8x40

13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you): Bushnell binoculars

14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species: overcast
none

15. Other observers: John Robinson, Joe Schaufenbuel

16. Did the others agree with your identification?

17. Other observers who independently identified this bird:

18. Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description:
Chandler Robbins' Golden Guide

19. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description? two days

Hank Zaletel *Hank Zaletel* Address: 667 Pammel Ct.

Signature

Date: November 23, 1981 City, State: Ames, Iowa 50010