

DOCUMENTATION FORM
For Extraordinary Bird Sightings in Iowa

What species? King Rail How many? 1
Location? 200 yards W. of West intersection Co. X54 + F 70, Muscatine Co.
Type of Habitat? marsh
When? date(s): 11 May, 1987 time: 4:45 AM to _____
Who? your name and address: Peter C. Petersen, 235 McClellan Blvd. Davenport IA - 52803
Others with you: Don Moeller + Walter Zuurdeeg
Others 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, undertail, legs, feet). Also mention voice and behavior.

Bird heard only (well before dawn)

Bird responded to tape of King Rail call from Peterson E. Record. Response was immediately after tape was played and all three of us said King Rail. We played the tape again but did not get another response. Several deer were scared by our presence + ran toward the bird. Sora + Virginia Rails then began calling.

Similar species; how eliminated: By tape match to King. As noted above Virginia Rail was present from a different direction. The "song" heard was the "grunt" call.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about the identification? no
If yes, explain:

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

Previous experience with species and similar ones: Have heard on several previous occasions

References and persons consulted before writing description: none

How long before field notes made? 1 day this form completed? 2 days

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