

## DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? Peregrine Falcon How many? 1Location? north central Story Co., east of McCallsburgType of habitat? above field along #E18 roadWhen? date(s): October 1, 1986 time: 7:50<sup>AM</sup> to 7:51 AMWho? your name and address: Beth Proescholdt, Liscomb, Iowaothers with you: Mark Proescholdt

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, under tail, legs, feet). Also mention voice and behavior.

As we drove west with the sun behind us we saw a bird with a pigeon-like flight flying toward us over the utility lines across the road. Immediately, though, we saw it was instead a large falcon with its long pointed wings and strong rowing flight. It flew parallel to the road momentarily where we could see its dark back & head with the black malar stripe forming the "helmet", as well as its lighter undersides. At that time it was about 30 yards away & 30 feet high before it turned & rushed over the fields away from us and out of sight.

Similar species and how eliminated: Pigeon, other hawks — at first sighting this bird looked like a pigeon — but at once we could see the large falcon shape & its strong rowing flight as it flew away, also its coloring & helmet.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? No

If yes, explain:

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

Full sun from east, bird south of us, — 30 yards, estimated — 8X30 Nikon binoculars

Previous experience with species and similar ones: I have seen a few PeregrinesReferences and persons consulted before writing description: National Geog., Peterson, Audubon's Master Guide, Peter Dunne's Hawk WatchHow long before field notes made? at once this form completed? October 11

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