

## DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? Northern Goshawk (Accipiter gentilis) How many? 1 (adult)Location? N.E. Allamakee County, IowaType of habitat? <sup>Forested</sup> Ridges and bluffs along and to west of Upper Mississippi River in IowaWhen? date(s): November 21, 1982 time: 10:00 to 10:01 approx.Who? your name and address: Francis L. Moore, 264 Western Ave., Waterloo, IA 50701others with you: Iowa Ornithologists Union Field Trip. only other person to identify the bird was John Robinson.others before or after you: As above

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.

Size was of a large accipiter as it flew from one ridge across an opening over a road and disappeared over another ridge. I had the bird in sight for approximately 45 sec. to 1 minute. As I watched it with my binoculars I noticed the large white area on its undertail coverts and decided to take a closer look with the Bushnell Spacemaster 20x60 telescope I was carrying over my shoulder on a stock. As I followed the bird I noticed a very white eye line over the bird's eye. The bird's belly appeared to be light gray to white on the belly, and a medium to dark gray on the back and dark gray on the wings. Flight was direct and powerful.

Similar species and how eliminated: Coopers Hawk would appear more brown on the back and wings with a brownish tinge to the belly. Coopers Hawk does not have the fluffy white undertail coverts or the white eye stripe as seen on this bird.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? No  
 If yes, explain: thought most people there did not get a look at the bird because of its sudden appearance and just as sudden disappearance.

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment:  
Lighting was Sunny, bird seen from approx. 150 to 200 yards using 7x35mm Bausch & Lomb Roof Prism binoculars and 20x60 Bushnell Spacemaster telescope mounted on a gun stock type mount.

Previous experience with species and similar ones: Have seen several N. Goshawks and many Cooper's Hawks.

References and persons consulted before writing description: None

How long before field notes made? time of observation this form completed? 2 days.

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