

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? Pectoral Sandpiper How many? 1

Location? Cone M., Louisa Co., Iowa

Type of habitat? Mud flat and marsh edge near spring-fed inlet

When? date(s): 19 Feb 1983 time: 8:50 to 9:00 AM, 10:30 AM

Who? your name and address: Thomas H. Kent, 211 Richards St., Iowa City IA 52240

others with you: none

others before or after you: none

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.

One sandpiper distinctly smaller than nearby Common Snipe with brown scaly back and wings, distinct breast bib, white abdomen and rump, slight eyeline, otherwise light brown head (not rufous), bill about length of head, bill straight and thicker at base, light-colored legs (exact color not seen). The bird was feeding in the mud and among short grass of marsh. It hopped on one leg.

Similar species and how eliminated: Size, bib, leg color, and bill shape exclude other species.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? _____

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment:
Sun to left, 100 yards (estimate), 20 X scope from car.

Previous experience with species and similar ones: Abundant Iowa bird.

References and persons consulted before writing description: none

How long before field notes made? while viewing this form completed? 4 hours

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