

DOCUMENTATION FORM

Species?Sandhill Crane

How Many?1 ad.

Location?Polk City Wildlife Area, Polk Co. (part of Saylorville Reservoir)

Habitat?sitting on ice and wading in small patch of open water

Date?22 Nov 1986

Time?3:00-3:15 P.M. and 4:15-4:30 P.M.

Observers Name and address:Steve Dinsmore 4024 Arkansas Dr. Ames, IA 50010

Others who saw bird:B.J. Rose, Loren and Babs Padelford, James Dinsmore, Bob Myers

Description of bird:Large, heron-like, grayish bird with some rusty color on wings and a red crown. Legs were long and dark. Bill was long, straight, and dark. The bird was about twice as large as the Canada Geese with which it loafed.

Similar species and how eliminated:The gray color, red crown, and heron profile eliminate Great Blue Heron.

Viewing conditions and equipment:Viewing conditions were excellent with a cloudy sky and sun behind me. Estimated viewing distance was 250-300 yards. I used a Bushnell 20-45x spotting scope.

Previous experience with species:I have seen numerous Sandhill Cranes in eastern and western U.S.

References consulted:NGS Field Guide to the Birds of North America

How long before field notes were made?none made

How long before this form was completed?48 hours