

DOCUMENTATION FORM  
For Extraordinary Bird Sightings in Iowa

What species? Semipalmated Sandpiper How many? 16  
Location? Red Rock Res., Marion Co., IA  
Type of Habitat? meadow flats, large reservoir  
When? date(s): 13 Nov 1987 time: 10:50 to 11:45  
Who? your name and address: Thomas H. Kent, 211 Richards St, Iowa City IA  
Others with you: none  
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.

- 11:10 First seen on west side of boat across S. of #14. "2 peeps.  
100 yds. with Questar.  $\frac{1}{2}$  as long as killdeer & less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  as tall.  
All white under parts except throat area appeared grayish.  
Plain upperparts at this distance. White extends up at  
shoulder, giving collared effect. Bill  $\frac{1}{2}$  length of head or more -  
seems long and tapered. Legs appear dark. Feeding and running  
almost like Sandpiper, but not sustained. One bird hops on one leg."
- 11:45 "16 more birds that look the same on east side of #14 bridge at  
200 yds. Bills and profile do not seem right for Dunlin."

Similar species; how eliminated:

I judged birds to be small peeps. Too small and gray to be Pectorals.  
Dunlin would be more likely, but bills not long enough on droopy &  
body too small. Did not have brown color on bill to  
suggest least. Date would be second latest for Iowa.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about the identification? \_\_\_\_\_  
If yes, explain:

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

overcast, No wind. 100-200 yds (guess); 20x Scope and Questar.

Previous experience with species and similar ones: common bird.

References and persons consulted before writing description:

looked at NC Field Guide while observing.

How long before field notes made? during observation period this form completed? 5 hrs.

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