

BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF  
AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD

1. Species Glauous Gull - Immature 2. Number 1
3. Location Lock 14 N. of Davenport IA
4. Date: 12-16-79 5. Time Bird Seen: 9<sup>00</sup> to 9<sup>05</sup>
6. Description of size, shape and color-pattern (describe in great detail all parts of the plumage, and beak and feet coloration, in addition, to the diagnostic characteristics, but include only what actually was seen in the field):  
A uniformly tan gull-wing, body and tail same light tan. Primaries slightly lighter from above and below - whitish and translucent, No black anywhere. Feet and legs pink. Bill large, pale with black tip to upper and lower mandible. Eye not accentuated, Same size as immature Herring gulls in same field.
7. Description of voice, if heard: N/A
8. Description of behavior: Flying below dam, similar in flight to Herring Gulls
9. Habitat - general: Open river below dam  
specific: Mississippi River
10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7 & 8. Explain:  
Herring Gull immature - many present for comparison. All Herring Gull had variable black-grey on wings and tail. Iceland Gull & large bill with pale base and size eliminate this species, also rare
11. Distance (how measured)? 50 yards (paced) to 200 yards
12. Optical equipment: 8x40 Triovisor
13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you):  
light overcast, excellent viewing conditions. Gull flew above and below our level on edge of the lock
14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species:  
Observed many at Gambell Alaska
15. Other observers:  
Thomas Shires
16. Did the others agree with your identification? yes
17. Other observers who independently identified this bird: none
18. Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description:  
Robbins consulted after making field notes
19. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description?  
7 hours, copied from field notes made at 2 hours
- Signature: Thomas H Kent Address: 211 Richards St
- Date: 12-16-79 City, State: Iowa City IA 52240