

## DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? PRARIE FALCON How many? 1Location? 4 MILES N. OF LAURENS - POCHANONTAS + PALO ALTO CO. LINE AREAType of habitat? OPEN FARMLANDWhen? date(s): 2/4/88 time: 7:40 AM to FOR 30-45 SECONDSWho? your name and address: JIM FULLERothers with you: MARK SNYDER + RON HARMSothers before or after you: C+B KNIGHT

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.

THE <sup>BIRD</sup> FLEW OUT THE WINDOW OF A BARN, MADE SEVERAL CIRCLES AND LANDED IN AN OPEN FIELD 1/4 MILE AWAY. LATER ROSE + CIRLED AND FLEW FARTHER AWAY AND OUT OF SIGHT. GENERAL SIZE WAS SLIGHTLY LARGER THAN A CROW. THE BIRD WAS GENERALLY LIGHT IN COLOR WITH THE BACK + UPPERWING DARKER. THE COLOR WAS A SANDY BROWN. THE WINGS WERE LONG + POINTED, THE TAIL LIGHTLY BARRED FROM BELOW, WAS QUITE LONG AND ROUNDED ON THE END. OTHER FIELD MARKS NOTED WERE A SOMEWHAT TRIANGULAR SHADED DARK AREA ON UNDERWING WITH BASE AGAINST BODY AND APEX POINTING TOWARD TIP. FACIAL PATTERN WAS NOT OBSERVED. THE WINGS WERE FLAPPED MORE RAPIDLY AND SEEMED TO BE LESS LABORED WHEN COMPARED TO MOST BUTEOS. NO CALL WAS HEARD.

Similar species and how eliminated: PEREGRINE - PEREGRINE DARKER UPPERPARTS + LACKS THE DARK UNDERWING AREAS. MERLIN - SIZE AND UNDERWING AREAS.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? NO

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment:  
SKY CLOUDY + SNOW FALLING. 9X BINOCULARS. SEEN AT 25 - 400 YARDS.

Previous experience with species and similar ones: HAVE SEEN IN WEST.References and persons consulted before writing description: NONEHow long before field notes made? IMMEDIATE this form completed? 12 HOURS

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