

DOCUMENTATION FORM  
For Extraordinary Bird Sightings in Iowa

What species? Least Tern How many? 1 juv

Location? Sandy Beach, Johnson Co, IA

Type of Habitat? Reservoir, flats

When? date(s): Thomas H. Kent 20 Aug 1991 time: 3<sup>10</sup> to 3<sup>30</sup> pm

Who? your name and address: 211 Richards St, Iowa City, IA 52246

Others with you: \_\_\_\_\_

Others before or after you: Jim Scheib (before + after), Jim Fuller (after)

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.

A very small tern  $\frac{1}{2}$  size of Franklin's Gull and much smaller than Ring-billed Gull.

Bill pointed,  $\frac{2}{3}$  length of R-b gull bill, almost black.

Black face mask starting in front of and including eye and widening behind eye, but not on nape.

White forehead and underparts.

Gray-brown area at shoulder and lower nape

Pink legs

Long wings extending well beyond tail

Deeply forked tail dark on outer sides.

Wings uniform except for black and leading and trailing edges of primaries, especially from below.

Similar species; how eliminated:

Size, shape, and features diagnostic

Did any one disagree or have reservations about the identification? no

If yes, explain:

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

side lighting, sunny, a close as 20 yds. 20x scope, 8x binoc.

Previous experience with species and similar ones: have seen many

References and persons consulted before writing description: none

How long before field notes made? 5 min this form completed? 3 hrs

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