

BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF  
AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD

- ✓ 1. Species Rough-legged Hawk 2. Number 1
3. Location PILOT CREEK CO. PARK (Pocahontas Co.)
4. Date: 6-13-82 5. Time Bird Seen: 10:30 to 10:35
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): Large Buteo. Gray-brown above with a white area in about the same location as a night hawk. White rump - black tail with a thin white terminal band. Black belly and lower tail coverts. tail not as red tail, but definitely that of a buteo. Creamy white breast with dark face and head.
7. Description of voice, if heard: NOT HEARD
8. Description of behavior: SOARING OVER PASTURE WHICH  
took off from
9. Habitat - general: Rolling pasture next wooded CREEK  
specific: Pasture with 1' to 2' weeds WITH GRAZED  
AREAS
10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7, & 8.  
Explain: Red-tailed Hawk Immature
11. Distance (how measured)? 75 yds to 300 yds 12. Optical equipment:  
EST. 10x50 BINOCULARS
13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you):  
fair to excellent depending on the bird's position as it SOARED
14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species:  
Regularly see 3 to 10 per WINTER
15. Other observers: Wally Jardine
16. Did the others agree with your identification? YES
17. Other observers who independently identified this bird:
18. Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description: N/A
19. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description? 1 hr.
- Signature: Raymond L. Cummins Address: 204 NW. 12th Street
- Date: 6-13-82 City, State: Pocahontas, Iowa