

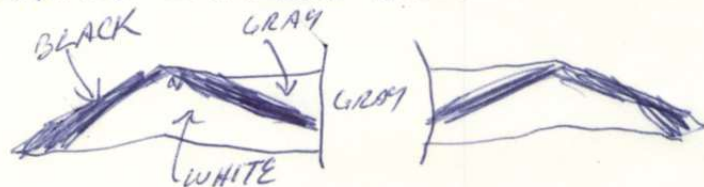
DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE How many? 1 (FIRST WINTER)Location? RED ROCK DAM TAILWATERS - MARION COUNTYType of habitat? RIVER - BELOW DAMWhen? date(s): 28 NOVEMBER, 1988 time: 7:15 AM to 7:50 AMWho? your name and address: JIM FULLER, 6 LONGVIEW KNOLL RR #6, IOWA CITY

others with you: _____

others before or after you: PETE WICKNIM

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 BIRD WAS SEEN IN 3 LOCATIONS, SITTING (NOT STANDING) ON A SANDBAR, SITTING ON THE WATER AND FLYING (FEEDING) OVER DAM TAILWATERS. GENERAL GULL SHAPE WITH VERY CONTRASTING BLACKS AND WHITES WHEN SITTING. SMALL HEAD AND SMALL BILL. HEAD WAS SMALLISH, VERY WHITE WITH PROMINENT BLACK CIRCULAR MARK BEHIND DARK EYE AND A DARK BUT NOT AS PROMINENT STREAK ON NECK. BILL WAS VERY SMALL AND HINGULL-LIKE, BLACK IN COLOR AND SLIGHTLY DOWNTURNED. LEGS WERE NEVER SEEN. UPPER WING (SEE DIAGRAM) HAD A DARK BLACK V ON EACH WING AND A WHITE TRAILING EDGE. MANTLE WAS DARKER THAN THAT OF NEARBY RING-BILLED GULLS. TAIL WAS WHITE, WITH BROAD TERMINAL BLACK BAND AND WAS USUALLY SLIGHTLY NOTCHED, ALTHOUGH IT WAS SQUARISH SEVERAL TIMES. WHEN FLYING. BELLY WAS SNOW WHITE, AS WAS THROAT. BIRD APPEARED SLIGHTLY SMALLER THAN THE RING BILLED GULLS.



Similar species and how eliminated: BONAPARTES - LARGER SIZE - BLACK NECK, NOTCHED TAIL AND WHITE TRAILING EDGE OF WING. ALL DIFFER FROM BONAPARTES. RED-LEGGED KITTIWAKE - UPPERWING PATTERN DIFFERS + TERMINAL BLACK TAIL BAND. SABINES + LITTLE GULLS - UPPERWING PATTERN DIFFERS. SIZE SMALLEST. NO BLACK NECK BAND.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? NO

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment: SKY CLEAR - SUN JUST RISING - LOOKING TO SOUTH, SOUTHWEST, AND WEST. 9X36 BINOCULARS. 20-60X SCOPE WHEN SITTING ON SANDBAR.

Previous experience with species and similar ones: NEVER HAVE SEEN FIRST WINTERReferences and persons consulted before writing description: LEONARDOHow long before field notes made? IMMEDIATE this form completed? 12 HOURS

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