

## DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? Northern Goshawk - adult How many? 1Location? Hickory Hill P., Iowa City, Johnson Co., IowaType of habitat? hilly pasture with scrub, tree rows, juniper and woodlandWhen? date(s): 16 Nov 1981 time: 4<sup>15</sup> to 4<sup>45</sup> pm (est)Who? your name and address: Thomas H. Kent, 211 Richards St, Iowa City IA 52240others with you: Mike Newton, Tom Standtothers before or after you: Rick Hollis (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, under tail, legs, feet). Also mention voice and behavior.

A large accipiter - as long as a Red-tailed hawk but slimmer and smaller headed. Head - relatively small, rather flat headed with angle at back, white line above eye, dark crown and eye line, small curved (hooked) bill. White breast, crissum and under tail. Neutral gray wing coverts and dark (nearly black) primaries, white extending around nape. Bird first seen flying up down chasing a bird - lit on ground. Then flew into a tree and seen from back. Later seen in a large tree from front. Flight straight, fast and direct. Bird appeared larger and heavier than a Cooper's Hawk. Bird made a series of sharp harsh notes when chasing the bird.

Similar species and how eliminated: Color, eye line, size, flight eliminate other accipiters. Shape and behavior unlike other hawks.Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? no

If yes, explain:

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

Light rain, late afternoon. 30-50 yards (est). 8x binocularsPrevious experience with species and similar ones: Seen twice before, never this wellReferences and persons consulted before writing description: noneHow long before field notes made? 1 1/2 hours this form completed? same

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