

Species: Bald Eagle, Haliaeetus leucocephalus

Date: 30 May 1992, 11:10-30 a.m. (late date)

Location: Coralville Reservoir from Babcock Access Rd., Johnson Co., Iowa

Other Obs: Tom Kent, Bill Pinkston

Description: Both immature and adult birds on snags over lake.

Huge raptors, larger than nearby Great Blue Herons (Ardea herodias).

Immature basically all dark brown with patchy white in wing linings, tail, back and belly. Very broad wings, long tail and neck. Huge hooked beak. Adult unmistakable, chocolate brown with all-white head and tail.

Conditions: Observed off-and-on for 20 minutes under sunny skies from 200+ meters with Zeiss 10x40 binoculars.

Similar Species: Adult unmistakable. Golden Eagle (Aquila chrysaetos) the only other raptor of comparable size, immature with white restricted to base of primaries and base of tail, not usually expected in aquatic habitats.

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