

BIRD DOCUMENTATION FORM

CARL J. BENDORF
825 7TH AVENUE
IOWA CITY IA 52240SPECIES: Sandhill Crane NUMBER: 1
LOCATION: 1 Mile N. of Amana COUNTY: Iowa
DATE: 10 February 1987 TIME: 4:15 TO 4:20 PM

HABITAT: Large corn stubble field in open country

DESCRIPTION: (Taken directly from field notes made as soon as I got home).

-At least size of Great Blue Heron. Obvious crane--long neck, long legs, upright posture. Mostly gray body and neck; blackish feathers in a full "bustle" shaped rear end; drooping, noticeable tail feathers. Long, heavy, straight bill was rounded at tip, not so pointed as a heron. Red patch on forehead and front of top of head.

After several minutes, it took flight straight out of sight. Long squarish-tipped wings with noticeable finger-like primaries. Long neck held straight out in front and long legs behind.

SIMILAR SPECIES--COMMENTS: Whooping Crane eliminated by gray overall color and lack of noticeable black in wings. Great Blue Heron eliminated by red patch on forehead and bustle-like tail.

AGREEMENT/DISAGREEMENT OF OTHERS: Lanny Haldy of Amana was present and agreed as did several Amana area non-birders. Bird apparently was only present for several hours. Was discovered by A. Lockridge of Amana.

LIGHT CONDITIONS: Clear day, late afternoon sun directly at my back.

DISTANCE: 200 yards (Estimated) EQUIPMENT: 10X40 Zeiss, 400 mm lens.

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND SIMILAR SPECIES: Have seen once before in Iowa, also seen in Florida.

REFERENCES, PERSONS CONSULTED BEFORE WRITING DESCRIPTION: None.

FIELD NOTES MADE? 1 hour

THIS FORM DONE? 15 Feb 1987