

**DOCUMENTATION FORM**  
For Extraordinary Bird Sightings in Iowa

What species? Northern Goshawk How many? one

Location? Lime Creek Nature Center, Mason City, Iowa

Type of Habitat? Wooded edge next to pot ash and prairie field

When? date(s): 10-13-90 time: c. 4:30 pm to c. 4:31 pm

Who? your name and address: Kim L. Pinneke, P.O. Box 1092, Mason City, IA 50401

Others with you: Dawn Tolefree

Others before or after you: None

*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, undertail, legs, feet). Also mention voice and behavior.*

Bird approximately the size of an American Crow. View was that of back and right side of the face. Dorsal coloring appeared gray in color. View of face showed a hooked upper mandible dark in color. Face was patterned: broad, black-appearing eye band, whitish superciliary line above the blackish eye band and a blackish crown. Tail extended beyond tips of primaries with bottom edge hidden from view. Bird made no calls during time seen.

*Similar species; how eliminated:*

Cooper's hawk eliminated by lateral face pattern  
Sharp shinned hawk eliminated by size  
Osprey eliminated by tail length in relation to primaries

*Did any one disagree or have reservations about the identification?* yes

*If yes, explain:*

Because tip of tail not seen and no view of ventral side

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

Overcast skies with sun position being to the back of the bird and to my back.

Distance guessed at 200 ft

7x50 binoculars

*Previous experience with species and similar ones:*

Goshawk not seen before but Sharp shinned, Cooper's and Osprey seen frequently

*References and persons consulted before writing description:*

Jan Walter (Mason City), Birds of North America by Robbins, Brunns, et al (Goldenbook),  
Peterson Guide Birds East of the Rockies

*How long before field notes made?* at time *this form completed?* 2 days

*Send completed form to Field Reports or CBC editor (address on back cover of Iowa Bird Life).*