

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? Willet How many? 1Location? Coralville Reservoir - Babcock Lake Rd - endType of habitat? Reservoir edge - mudWhen? date(s): 10/20/84 time: 10:00 to 10:05 AMWho? your name and address: Card Thompson 1116 Muscatineothers with you: Conservation officer hauling dead deer noticed bird
asked me to identify.

others before or after you: _____

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.

Fairly uniform gray on top, some white near belly. Overall impression is a gray bird. Did not fly, so did not see wing pattern. Largish bird, larger than lesser yellowlegs. Bill was stout and not that long, and straight. It was basically walking around the edge of the parking area in the short grass and mud. Legs were darkish, not black, definitely not yellow. Bill appeared blackish.

Similar species and how eliminated: ? I don't know what one would confuse a willet with.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? _____

If yes, explain:

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

Lighting - good, bright, approximately 40 feet, 9x35 binocular also, 20x scope

Previous experience with species and similar ones: Have observed birds many times in the south during spring and winterReferences and persons consulted before writing description: National GeographicHow long before field notes made? None, this form completed? 11/15/84

MAIL TO: T. H. Kent, Field Reports Editor, 211 Richards Street, Iowa City IA 52240