

What species? PRARIE FALCON How many? 1Location? DAM-SAYLORVILLE RESERVOIR - POLK COUNTYType of habitat? DAM FACE - ADJACENT TO WATER - FLY BYWhen? date(s): 3 NOV; 1989 time: 9:45 AM to FOR 15-20 SECONDSWho? your name and address: JIM FULLER, 6 LOUQUVEN KNOLL, RR#6, IOWA CITYothers with you: CAL KNIGHT

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.

THE BIRD WAS FLYING FROM WEST TO EAST ALONG THE WATER SIDE OF THE SAYLORVILLE DAM AND WE WERE SCOPING THE LAKE FROM THE EAST OVERLOOK. THE BIRD WAS FIRST SEEN AT 200-250 YARDS BELOW THE LEVEL OF THE TOP OF THE DAM. THE FALCON SHAPE, LONG TAIL AND POINTED WINGS WERE EVIDENT. THE GENERAL SIZE WAS ABOUT THAT OF A CROW AND THE BIRD WAS A SANDY BROWN COLOR AS VIEWED FROM ABOVE. IT FLEW BY 40-50 YARDS FROM US AND THEN LISTED UP ABOVE THE DAM LEVEL AND THE BLACK AXILLARIES WERE SEEN. IT WAS THEN LOST TO VIEW - WITH TOTAL VIEWING TIME ONLY 15-20 SECONDS. NO FACE PATTERN WAS IDENTIFIED.

Similar species and how eliminated: MERLIN IS SMALLER WITH BLUE-GRAY COLORATION IN ADULT BUT HAS NO BLACK AXILLARIES IN ANY PLUMAGE. PEREGRINE FALCON DOES NOT HAVE BLACK AXILLARIES AND COLORATION FROM ABOVE IS DARKER IN ALL PLUMAGES.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? NO

If yes, explain:

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

PARTLY CLOUDY, GOOD LIGHT - LOOKING WEST TO EAST FOLLOWING FLIGHT OF BIRD, SUN IN SOUTHEAST.

Previous experience with species and similar ones: SEEN TWICE IN IOWA AND SEVERAL TIMES IN WESTERN U.S.References and persons consulted before writing description: NAT'L GLOB.How long before field notes made? IMMEDIATE this form completed? 36 HOURS

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