

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? ~~Blue Jay~~ Merlin How many? 1

Location? Volga River Rec A

Type of habitat? artificial lake, mixed woodland & rock

When? date(s): 16 Nov 1984 time: 3:30 to 3:40

Who? your name and address: Thomas H. Kent, 211 Richards St, Iowa City IA 52240

others with you: Tom Staedt

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.

Bird seen flying low over boat ramp. Kestrel size. Long narrow tail with narrow barring - dark brown. Pointed narrow wings. Bird perched in tree. Blue-brown back, streaked breast with white lower belly and undertail. Indistinct white eyeline. Bird flew again to another perch where we watched it through scope again. Yellow feet

Similar species and how eliminated: Kestrel - no red, breast heavily ~~streaked~~ streaked. no kestrel face pattern.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? no

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment:
sun light at various angles. light behind when bird perched.
8x binocs, 20x scope. 30-100 yds.

Previous experience with species and similar ones: yes

References and persons consulted before writing description: none

How long before field notes made? 1 1/2 hours this form completed? same

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