

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? Northern Oriole How many? 2 ad.Location? 1/2 mi W. GreenCastle corner, NW Johnson Co. IAType of habitat? Mixed open (wet) fields and wooded edgeWhen? date(s): 31 Oct 1982 time: 8³⁰ to 8⁴⁰ estWho? your name and address: Thomas H. Kent, 211 Richards St., Iowa City IA 52240others with you: Carl Benda-f

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.

First bird seen flying away from us - about size of Red-tail, long rounded gray-blue wings darker at tip and long dark tail. Bird lit in tall tree. Light underparts seen and eye stripe visible. As we walked to get a closer view, Carl saw another bird sitting in an open tree to the west in good light. The second bird sat upright with dark gray blue wings and back and top of head, long dark tail, white underparts with crossbar appearing white, and very bold white eye stripe. We checked to see that both birds were in sight at same time - at least a 1/4 mile apart.

Similar species and how eliminated: Size + eye stripe exclude Cooper's, Shape and marking exclude Red-tail, Flicker + other Orioles.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? no

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment: Back light on first bird, direct light on second one. 100-200 yds (est). 8x binocs.

Previous experience with species and similar ones: seen several timesReferences and persons consulted before writing description: looked at drawings in Peterson briefly.How long before field notes made? 3 hrs this form completed? 3 hrs

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