

EBL

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

STAUDT

What species? Northern Goshawk How many? 1

Location? North East Johnson County near Sandy Beach

Type of habitat? Deciduous wood open rolling fields

When? date(s): December 18, 1982 time: 11:55 to _____

Who? your name and address: Tom Staudt

others with you: Jim Sandrock, John Cordell

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 was first seen flying on the edge of a deciduous stand.

seen by the naked eye - uniformly dark gray over back/wings ~~with~~ long tail head black with ~~with~~ long wide white stripe over eye, white throat, creamy underparts.

with binoculars length - ^{body} longer than rough legged Hawk seen minutes before.

body very streamlined large breast area tapering to narrow long tail, head held in tight to body no visible neck. rounded wings are far forward. Flight swift as falcon, wings stiff, strong stroke frequent beats, then a short glide. Tail held tightly together in flight.

Head black over the crest, white eye stripe, black auricular area

white eye stripe, uniform dark gray over back and wings and streamlined body were most notable features.

underparts not seen

Similar species and how eliminated: white eye stripe and size eliminate other accipiters. Falcons eliminated by short rounded, almost oval wing shape.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? all agreed

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment: Full sun no clouds sun behind observer 7x binoculars

first seen at 25 yards then flying away

Previous experience with species and similar ones: 2 sighting last one Nov. 16, 1982

References and persons consulted before writing description: none

How long before field notes made? notes made immediately this form completed? 4hrs after sighting

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