

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? N. goshawk ad How many? 1Location? NE corner Hickory Hill Park, Iowa City Johnson Co. IAType of habitat? mixture of pastures, hedgerows, second-growth woodsWhen? date(s): 15 Nov 1981 time: 3:30 to 4:30 PMWho? your name and address: Mike Newlon 408 Wales St Iowa Cityothers with you: —others before or after you: T. Kent, T. Staudt, R. Hollis

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.

Size: about that of n.t. hawk, a bit longer + more slender. $\sim 3\frac{1}{2}$ length of blue jays
mobbing itbuild: compared to redtail more slender, smaller head, longer tail. crown flat.
for size of bird, tail shorter than Cooper's or sharp-shin.Plumage: except as noted upperparts ~~black~~ grey, as was rump. Tail grey with about 3 wide transverse dark bars. Wing-coverts pale grey contrasting with much darker primaries. crown + sides of head dark grey. Pale stripe above eye. On nape a wide transverse pale bar, not joined to eye stripe, divided in center with a narrow dark vertical bar continuous with dark of crown + apex of lower nape. Underparts white \pm very fine transverse dark bars. Under-tailcoverts v. long + fluffy, white, extending $\frac{2}{3}$ way down tail. legs + feet yellow. eye deep red. Bill dark.

behavior: perched halfway up small tree; few to pasture green up to cedar/hawthorn when mobbed by jays. Obs. several times chasing m. doves in pasture. Later seen pursuing small bird into thicket, crashed through weeds + perched on fallen log. Then flew to a succession of perches in trees, moving from one to another when flushed by observers.

flight: swift and direct. wingbeats rapid, made only a few short glides.
voice: when pursuing small bird, gave a rapid medium pitched cackle, not loud "cher-cher-cher-cher-cher".

Similar species and how eliminated: Pattern: pale grey above, white below, no white rump eliminates all other large N. Am. Hawks.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? no

If yes, explain:

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

Dull grey rainy afternoon. when first seen light not to bad, obs. from an est to. later, light worse, not so closely seen except in flight, v. quickly.

Previous experience with species and similar ones: have seen at Duluth + Hawk mtn; also Wash State + Mass; also many sh-sh. + some Cooper's hawks.

References and persons consulted before writing description: —How long before field notes made? 2h this form completed? (copied)

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