

DOCUMENTATION FORM
Extraordinary Bird Sightings in Iowa

Species: Eastern Phoebe

Location: Cherry Glen, Saylorville Lake, Polk Co., IA

Habitat: Edge of woods near open field along lakeshore

Date(s): 11/12/88

Time: 8:51 am to 8:51 am

Name and Address: Ann Johnson, 532 120th Ave., Norwalk, Iowa 50211

Other observers: none known

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 behavior and voice.

"Yellow wash on belly" made me think of a cedar waxwing at first glance. Further examination showed "white throat, no wing bars, and tail bobbing". I knew this was a late phoebe but did not realize just how late until I looked it up in the ever present "Kent list" later in the morning. Told the Armstrongs about it but am unsure if they got back to Cherry Glen that day. Bird did not call.

Similar species and how eliminated:

Yellow wash, lack of wing bars, and tail bobbing eliminated the eastern wood-pewee.

Did anyone disagree or have reservations about identification? NA

If yes, explain:

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

Rainy and overcast; well seen from estimated 30' through 7x26 binoculars

Previous experience with species and similar ones:

30+ years of birding have given me many experiences with flycatchers

References and persons consulted before writing description:

None.

How long before field notes made? 3 hours
completed? 2 weeks

How long before this form