

**DOCUMENTATION FORM**  
For Extraordinary Bird Sightings in Iowa

What species? Golden Eagle How many? 1 imm

Location? Lacey-Keosauqua State Park, Van Buren Co., Iowa

Type of Habitat? Over forested area of Des Moines River

When? date(s): 28 Apr 1991 time: 2:30 to 2:32

Who? your name and address: Thomas H. Kent, 211 Richards St, Iowa City, IA 52246

Others with you: Bob Cecil

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, undertail, legs, feet). Also mention voice and behavior.

I noticed a large dark raptor sailing over the river and when I put my binocular on it, I was surprised that it was not a Turkey Vulture. I noticed the long head and long wings and large size. As it batted I saw white at the base of the primaries on upper and lower wing surfaces and white at the base of the tail from above and below. There was no other white. The bird was sailing the whole time in a moderate SE breeze and held its wings above the dihedral. Bob Cecil immediately shouted "Golden Eagle" when he saw it.

Similar species; how eliminated: Osprey, Turkey Vulture, and immature Bald Eagle are all eliminated by the distribution of white. The size and profile was typical of Golden Eagle.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about the identification? no  
If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), optical equipment.  
Overcast, 1/4 mile (est), 10x binocs

Previous experience with species and similar ones: have seen many, some last week in Colorado

References and persons consulted before writing description: none

How long before field notes made? 18 hrs this form completed? \_\_\_\_\_

Send completed form to Field Reports or CBC editor (address on back cover of Iowa Bird Life).