

## DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? Goshawk (imm.) How many? 1Location? Volga River Recreation Area (Fayette County)Type of habitat? Mixed deciduous timberWhen? date(s): Dec. 12, 1981 time: 10:50<sup>AM.</sup> to 10:52 A.M.Who? your name and address: Robert K. Myersothers with you: Russell Haysothers before or after you: Joe Schaufenbuel also found imm. here

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 - large - bigger than crow

Shape - not heavy or real slim but profile was on tapered-trimmer side - long tail - and "accipiter shape" easily seen in flight. The bird was perched when first seen and I immediately yelled "Goshawk" because size + shape were so like that of adult bird we saw Nov. 21

Coloring - As bird flew over we could see the basically brown upper color + ~~the~~ light buff below with many dark streaks. The main mark that stood out was the white eye stripe - the stripe appeared as bold & bright as that of the adult bird we saw earlier.

Behavior - The bird flew by us low and very rapidly and disappeared into a grove of Junipers.

Similar species and how eliminated: An imm. Cooper's hawk could be similar in size and coloring but would not show the very obvious white stripe above the eye.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? NO

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment: BTL 7x35 binocs  
Bright overcast day - bird flew past within 50'  
good viewingPrevious experience with species and similar ones: Saw a adult bird <sup>(Goshawk)</sup> on Nov. 21

References and persons consulted before writing description: Peterson's Field Guide

How long before field notes made? 8 hr. this form completed? 1 week

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