

## DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? Scissor-tailed Flycatcher How many? 1Location? 1 mile NORTH, 1 mile East, 1.5 miles NORTH of Superior in Dickinson CountyType of habitat? Gravel Roadside - on telephone wire between glacial knob and wetlandWhen? date(s): 10-16-95 time: 1:00 to 1:30 pmWho? your name and address: Ed Thelen RR 8725 SPIRIT LAKE, IA, 51360

others with you: \_\_\_\_\_

others before or after you: Bob Benedict, DAN Lempienen

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 around size of E. Kingbird not including the tail which was longer than the body of the bird. It had a grey cap and back. Its chin, throat and belly were whitish. Its wings were dark and contrasted with its back and belly. Its flank was peach colored and its upper sides under the wing were salmon-colored - visible only when the bird flew.

The tail was somewhat longer than the body and was dark grey alternating with white when viewed from below. It had dark eyes and its bill was all dark except for some light coloration towards its posterior.

It was on a telephone wire and would fly out about 15-20 ft. to grab an insect then fly back to wire. As it flew its tail would separate into two long streamers.

Similar species and how eliminated:

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? NO

If yes, explain:

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

Good - Sunny 75+ feet (Est.) 8.5 x 44 binocs  
30x spotting scope

Previous experience with species and similar ones: NoneReferences and persons consulted before writing description: Peterson Field Guide  
- Audubon Society Master GuideHow long before field notes made? As I viewed the bird this form completed? 5 weeks to BirdingMAIL TO: T. H. Kent, Field Reports Editor, 211 Richards Street, Iowa City IA 52240