

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? Scissor-tailed Flycatcher How many? 1 ♂Location? N.E. corner of Waubesa State Park - Fremont CountyType of habitat? Roadside separating open country from heavy timberWhen? date(s): April 24, 1982 time: 10:30 AM to 10:35 AMWho? your name and address: Robert K. Myers - 1236 Sylvia Ave., Waterloo, Iowa, 50701others with you: Francis Moore + Ross Silcockothers 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, under tail, legs, feet). Also mention voice and behavior.

Size: Body about size of house sparrow with forked tail about twice as long as body.

Color: Top of head, neck, + back were gray. Throat + breast were white. Sides + belly were pinkish. Eye was dark. Wings + tail were darker gray or blackish.

Behavior: Bird was perched on a wire and made one short flight in typical flycatcher fashion apparently chasing an insect and then returned to wire.

Similar species and how eliminated: None except that the Fork-tailed flycatcher has a black head and white underparts.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? No

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment: We were on the road facing north—sun was from behind us. Bird was on telephone wire about 60 yd. away. I viewed with 7x35 binoculars and 25x scope. An excellent look!

Previous experience with species and similar ones: I have seen scissor-tails in southern Missouri and in Texas.

References and persons consulted before writing description: None

How long before field notes made? 3 hrs this form completed? 3 days

MAIL TO: T. H. Kent, Field Reports Editor, 211 Richards Street, Iowa City IA 52240