

✓ Mulder

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? forficata (Scissor-tailed flycatcher) How many? 1

Location? Ames, Iowa - Iowa State University near Hawthorn Ct.

Type of habitat? Residential - near railroad tracks on telephone wire

When? date(s): August 31, 1983 time: 4:00pm to 4:10 p.m.

Who? your name and address: Phillip Mulder 1239 Hawthorn Ct.

others with you: _____

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, under tail, legs, feet). Also mention voice and behavior.

Bird was slightly larger than an eastern kingbird, and somewhat lighter in color. Under-color was white with a slight yellow tint. Head and back appeared almost olive gray or green. Bird was perched on telephone wire overhanging tunnel. Most noticeable was the long tail feathers which were slightly forked at end. Tail feathers were nearly two times birds' body length. No voice calls heard, and bird did not take flight during my observation.

Similar species and how eliminated: Obvious tail feathers eliminated any similar species

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? no

If yes, explain:

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

Distance from bird was approximately 10 meters, lighting was excellent, no optical equipment.

Previous experience with species and similar ones: Have a check list which includes nearly 150 species. Have confirmed sightings of crested fly catcher, eastern king-

References and persons consulted before writing description: bird, wood pewee, d'phoebe. Consulted Bob Moorman & James Dinsmore

How long before field notes made? ca. 2 weeks this form completed? Sept. 15, 1983

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