

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

What species? Loggerhead Shrike How many? 1  
Location? Approx. 5<sup>miles</sup> WSW of Low Moor, Iowa Clinton County, IA  
Type of Habitat? Open farmland with small creek & marshy area nearby  
When? date(s): Dec. 21, 1998 time: 9:10 to 9:15 (1/4 mile)  
Who? your name and address: ULF KONIG 215 S. Olive St Maquoketa, Iowa  
Others with you: Gary Ostrom of Rock Island, IL  
Others before or after you: N/A

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.

The bird was initially observed at 9:10 a.m. on a telephone line to the east of us. We slowly approached with the car and viewed from a short distance. I identified it as a loggerhead shrike from the following characteristics:

- 1) smaller plump appearance, like a fat robin in size.
- 2) Black face mask extending over & below eye as well as on to area above beak. but not as long.
- 3) Dark bluish gray color, darker than Northern Shrikes
- 4) Habitat, open country with brushy cover I've seen at nearby creek & marsh.

Similar species; how eliminated:

Mockingbird - The bird I saw had the definite dark mask of a Shrike

Northern Shrike - The bird I saw was smaller in size darker in appearance and had a mask which extended above & below eye.

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

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

Cloudy, but good morning light about 50 feet away sitting on telephone wire. Initially viewed w/ 7x42 Zeiss then viewed with window mounted scope.

Previous experience with species and similar ones:

Have seen species at least 10 times, one time a road kill which allowed for close inspection.

References and persons consulted before writing description:

Kelly McKay - count compiler, National Geographic Field Guide  
Northern Shrike 2 times  
Mockingbird - too many times to say maybe 50

How long before field notes made? immediate this form completed? 2 weeks

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