

## DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*) How many? 1Location? N. E. side of Hwy 14<sup>st</sup> bridge across Red Rock Reservoir, Marion Co.Type of habitat? Partially frozen water near bridge, near weedy backwatersWhen? date(s): November 21, 1987 time: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_Who? your name and address: Francis L. Moore, 336 Fairfield St., Waterloo, IA 50703others with you: Tom Kent, Iowa City, Bob Cecil, Keokuk, Bob Myers, Perryothers before or after you: None that I know of.

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.

This bird was seen flying above the skim ice above the surface of the backwaters of the reservoir. The flight was that of a swallow; smooth, graceful, fluid. The top of the bird was a blue black color. The underparts showed a rusty tan to cinnamon color. The tail was long and deeply forked. At times the bird landed on the ice or small blanches and weeds above the ice. It stayed in a relatively small area during the time of observation.

Similar species and how eliminated: No other swallow has long swallow tail, forked, pointed on outer rectrices, dark blue-black color on back and medium tan to cinnamon color below.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? No.

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment:  
Cloudy. Seen from approx. 100 yards using 20x60 telescopePrevious experience with species and similar ones: Lots of experience with all swallows throughout Iowa.References and persons consulted before writing description: NoneHow long before field notes made? None made this form completed? 5 days.

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