

Ferruginous Hawk

CA 1884

Grinnell, Poweshiek Co., IA

unknown

Kelsey 1891, Anderson 1907, +others

Record Number: 93-GF

Classification: NA

REFERENCES

Cous, E. 1887. Key to North American Birds, 3rd ed. p 551.

Cooke, W. W. 1888. Bird Migration in the Mississippi Valley 1884-5. U.S. Dept. of Agriculture. Division of Economic Ornithology Bull. 2. p 117 (also 42, 44)

Kelsey, C. 1891. Birds of Poweshiek County Iowa. Ornithologist and Oologist 16:131-134.

Bendire, C. 1892. Life history of North American birds with special reference to their breeding habits and eggs. In Smithsonian Contributions to Knowledge 840. 28:260.

Anderson 1907

VOTE: 5 NA

NA, Cooke's work was the genesis of what later became the seasonal reports in Bird-Lore, Audubon Field Notes, and American Birds, so it is likely that this report came from 1884 or 1885. Lynds Jones was listed as a reporter from Grinnell in both 1894 and 1895; Prof H. W. Parker was also listed for 1895 (Cooke 1888, pp 42, 44). We have no way of knowing whether Cous was referring to the same report, but it is surprising that he put Iowa east of the Mississippi River. It seems likely that Kelsey and Bendire are referring to the same record as reported by Cooke. Anderson consulted Lynds Jones, a highly respected ornithologist who grew up near Grinnell in the late 1800s, and he questioned the record. There is no evidence to suggest that this record was correct./thk

Ferruginous Hawk

Cooke, W. W. 1888. Bird Migration in the Mississippi Valley 1884-5.
US Dept Agriculture. Division of Economic Ornithology. Bull 2. p 117

348. *Archibuteo ferrugineus* (Licht.). [448.] *Ferruginous Rough-leg; Ferruginous Buzzard.*

Chiefly a western species, a few coming east into the Mississippi Valley. It is resident in western Kansas, where Dr. Watson says it is tolerably common at Ellis every year. It has also been seen in western Nebraska, and is abundant in western Texas in winter. It has been seen once at Rock Island, Ill., and has been found nesting at Vermillion, Dak., and Grinnell, Iowa.

Mr. Balmer writes from Paris, Ill.: "On January 19, 1886, I had the good fortune to capture what I consider a rare bird for this State, viz, *Archibuteo ferrugineus*. He seems to have got a long way out of his latitude. He came with a thaw, in a south wind, after our big, big blizzard. I shot him out of a tree after dark, having marked him down for the night. The bird is a male, and measured 53 inches in extent."

Coues, E. 1887. Key to North American Birds, 3rd ed
p 551

Dakota, but have no specimen at hand, and cannot trust my memory. One of the largest, handsomest and most distinctively marked hawks of N. Am., somewhat recalling *Buteo albo-caudatus*; common in the west, from the region of the Red River of the North and of the Saskatchewan to Texas and into Mexico, and from the Plains to the Pacific; sometimes even E. of the Mississippi, as in Iowa. Nesting and habits in no wise peculiar, as compared with those of other large hawks; nest in trees, on ledges and banks, composed of sticks, with matted lining of various softer materials; eggs not characteristic, but large, averaging 2.50×1.95 .

Bendire, C. 1892. Life history of North American birds with special reference to their breeding habits and eggs, in Smithsonian Contributions to Knowledge 840. 28:260, 1892.

Kansas and Nebraska, northward through the Dakotas and eastern Montana, passing beyond our border through Manitoba to the Saskatchewan plains in about latitude 55° . It possibly breeds very rarely in northwestern Texas, and has been reported as nesting near Grinnell, Iowa, but this record is not fully verified.

Kelsey, C. 1891. Birds of Poweshiek County Iowa. Ornithologist and Oologist 16:131-134

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| [| 347a. <i>Archibuteo lagopus sancti-johannis</i> , American Rough-legged Hawk, | " | " | W. V. |
| | 348. <i>Archibuteo ferrugineus</i> , | Ferruginous Rough-leg, | R. | Yes S. R. |

Ferruginous Hawk

151. (347a). *Archibutea ferrugineus* (Licht.). Ferrugineous Rough-leg.

Anderson 1907
p 252



The Ferrugineous Rough-leg occurs occasionally in Iowa during the migrations. It is a bird of the western United States, occasionally straggling east to Iowa or even to Illinois and Wisconsin. Major Bendire states (Life Hist. of N. A. Birds, 259-60) that it "has been reported as nesting near Grinnell, but the record has not been fully verified." Mr. Lynds Jones says of this: "I know nothing about the Ferruginous Rough-leg at Grinnell. Bendire concluded that the Grinnell bird must be Ferruginous, and so stated upon his own motion. I always questioned it." In Nebraska it is "the common Rough-legged Hawk in the state, and occurs throughout. It is less common in the eastern portion" (Rev. Bds. Neb., 1904, 52).

County records: Blackhawk—"rare winter visitant; specimen in museum of I. S. N. S." (Walters). Kossuth—"a few seen. I am sure of identity of this species, as it is well known to me" (Bingaman). Linn—"a pair of Ferruginous Rough-legs winter every year at Gordon's grove, Waubeck; have seen them there four different years. They are larger birds than the Swainson, but are white or nearly so below, with feathered legs. Mr. J. W. Preston collected a set of Ferruginous Rough-leg near Newton" (Berry). Pottawattamie—"straggler" (Trostler). Woodbury—"rare; it is not uncommon in the various mounted Hawks seen in the stores of Sioux City. I have never handled a fresh specimen" (Rich).

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