

Prairie Falcon
20 Dec 1981
De Soto NWR, Harrison Co., IA
*Barb Wilson
IBL 52:7, 16, 25, 26, 42

Record Number: 81-25
Classification: A-D

DOCUMENTATION

Barb Wilson

REFERENCES

Christmas Bird Count: IBL 52:7, 16
Field Reports: IBL 52:25, 26
Records Committee: IBL 52:42

VOTE: 6 III, 1 IV

IV, Face pattern seems OK but black axillaries not mentioned.
Side below wing dark? If this ref. to axillaries then II, but
phrasing v. obscure.

III, Well-described bird. It (or another) had been seen
several times in fall prior to CBC.

REVOTE at meeting of 8 May 1982: 7 III

SUPPORTING DETAILS: UNCOMMON OR RARE SPECIES AND/OR SPECIES IN HIGH NUMBERS 81-25 #53

CBC name Desoto CBC date 12/20/81 Compiler D. Menke

Observer writing this account and date Paul Wilson with much help

SPECIES Prairie Falcon NUMBER, AGE, SEX 1

Distance from bird(s) 250' Relative size of bird Pigeon size or bigger
(Closest distance 55')

HEAD & NECK (Describe forehead, crown, auricular, malar region, median line, etc.)



Narrow dark band anterior to eye. Whitish line above & to rear of eye. Behind white band is an oval black or gray brown mark w/ white crescent behind that.

EYE & LORES (Describe supercilium, ring, stripe, color, etc.)

eye dark



UPPER & LOWER MANDIBLES Bluish base of upper mandible. Core blue gray, extensive than red tail. Tip black

LEGS & FEET light

UPPERPARTS (Describe nape, back, rump, upper tail coverts, etc.)

Streaked, light, side below wing dark, Verticals striping on sides & P probably through breast. Upper breast immaculate, streaking tanish brown on sides. Fine streaking on breast to throat. Sides more boldly streaked

UNDERPARTS (Describe throat, belly, side, flanks, crissum, etc.)

dark gray brown.

TRICES (Describe inner, middle, outertail feathers, color pattern, shape, etc.)

Uniform or dully banded, long. Gray, probably not banded

WING (Describe color, length, shape, linings, bars, coverts, leading and trailing edges, etc.)

Pointed, long

VOCALIZATION

BEHAVIOR Hovering, swooping about over field. Took a sparrow from a lawn yard, perched & tore it up to eat

Date of observation 20 Dec. Time 5:10 am Weather Cold, Windy Clear Sunny Sky cover light high 2 overcast

Duration of observation ± 15 min Bird - Sun orientation 2. mi NNE of us, Sun SE

Exact location

Habitat Formyard in cropland Other observers Rick Wright, Dave Menke

Optical equipment 20x, 25x scope

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS