

Ferruginous Hawk

3 Nov 1962

Stuart, Adair Co., IA

P. Petersen, M. L. Petersen, Trials

Petersen 1962, Brown 1971, Wilson 1988

Record Number: 93-HI

Classification: NA

REFERENCES

Petersen, P. 1962. Ferruginous Hawk in western Iowa. IBL
32:86.

Brown 1971

Wilson 1988

VOTE: 5 NA

NA, Bill Clark reviewed this record for Barb Wilson and did not accept it ("Prob. Ad. IV"). Attempts to catch the bird seemed to supercede detailing the field marks. I don't see any specifics here that do not fit a light Red-tailed Hawk. I have seen Red-tails with light head and neck and almost white tails. Large size is entirely subjective. The leggings, rusty back, and wing patches should have been evident at this close range. Fence pole sitting sounds more like a Red-tail./thk

93-HI

Petersen, P. Jr. 1962. Ferruginous Hawk in western Iowa. IBL 32:86.

Ferruginous Hawk in Western Iowa. On November 3, 1962, a Ferruginous Hawk was observed along Interstate 80 east of Stuart, Iowa, in Adair County. The bird was perched atop a cable pole along the highway. We dropped a bal-chatri hawk trap and observed the bird from about 75 yards down the highway for several minutes. The hawk was interested in our Meadow Mouse and flew over it once, returning to the pole when scared away by another car. When it became obvious the bird was losing interest in the bait animal and traffic was allowing it little opportunity to stoop we retrieved our trap. We had observed the pale breast, light head and neck and large size of the perched bird from the car. Upon flushing it the whitish tail with red at the terminal end and no dark tip was obvious. The bird was observed by Mary Lou and I and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Trial. PETER PETERSEN JR., 2736 East High St., Davenport.

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Harris' Hawk Parabuteo unicinctus (Temminck)

Accidental
Admission to the Iowa list is based on a 1904 record mentioned by Anderson (1907). There is no Iowa specimen extant.

Golden Eagle Aquila chrysaetos (Linnaeus)

Rare migrant

They have been reported throughout the state, but occur principally in the northern half.

Bald Eagle Haliaeetus leucocephalus (Linnaeus)

Common migrant and winter resident

Both Anderson (1907) and DuMont (1933) described winter observations as occasional. Grant (1963) recorded it as a common migrant and winter visitor in the east but rare in the west.

Observations range from 5 September (FL) to 7 May (WHB). There are March and October dates at Sioux City (WY) and they are commonly found at Forneys Lake in Fremont Co. during the spring goose migration. From 30 to 75 have been sighted in one day along the Mississippi River where they arrive in mid-November and leave about 1 March (PCP, pers. comm.).

Marsh Hawk Circus cyaneus (Linnaeus)

Common migrant and uncommon permanent resident

It is seen in all months; more often in spring and fall, and less frequently in summer and winter. The number of breeding birds has decreased markedly in recent years, and few are now seen in some sections. A nesting in 1957 is described by Kent and Vane (1957).

Family PANDEONIDAE

Osprey Pandion haliaetus (Linnaeus)

Uncommon migrant

Spring migration dates have been from 1 March (EJP) to 19 May (PF). It has been observed in fall from 1 September (RMH) to 26 December (DD, IC). It is reported to be decreasing rapidly in most of its range.

Family FALCONIDAE

Gyr Falcon Falco rusticolus Linnaeus

Accidental

The only record was on 27 October, 1946 at Cheever Lake, Emmet Co. (Musgrove, 1949b). There is no Iowa specimen extant.

Broad-winged Hawk Buteo platyterus (Vieillot)

Common migrant, rare breeding bird

Spring migrants usually appear in the latter part of April and one seen on 3 March (EJP) was unusually early. Fall migrants appear early in September with the peak in the last third of the month. An estimated 250 were seen on 22 September, 1968 at the site of the Saylorville Dam in Polk Co. (JKB). There have been occasional winter records with the latest on 7 January (EC).

Most of the summer records are from Des Moines in the years 1955-1960 when nests were found in several of these years (JCK). Other nesting records are from Palsades-Kepler State Park in 1956 (Kline, 1956) and Ledges State Park in 1969 (EG, pers. comm.).

Swainson's Hawk Buteo swainsoni Bonaparte

Rare breeding bird

Although a western species, it is occasionally found in eastern Iowa. It has nested as far east as Scott Co. where immatures were found in 1962 (LB, pers. comm.). Roosa (1964b) mentions some of the nesting records. Observations have been made as early as 12 March (PCP) and as late as 31 October (RMH). There is also a winter record of a pair in Polk Co. observed on 30 December, 1961 and 7 January, 1962, with a single bird in the same area on 14 January, 1962 (Pearley, 1962).

Rough-legged Hawk Buteo lagopus (Pontoppidan)

Common winter resident

The earliest fall date of 1 October (DR). Late observations were on 9 May, 1948 at Cedar Rapids (L.B.L., 18:62) and 17 May, 1947 at Cedar Falls (L.B.L., 17:72). Most observations have been north of the Davenport-Des Moines latitude, but it has been recorded as far south as Burlington where it was found during the 1962 Christmas Census (L.B.L., 33:6).

Ferruginous Hawk Buteo regalis (Gray)

Casual

Recent records of this western species are: 13 May, 1946 in the Spirit Lake-Cheever Lake area (Musgrove, 1947); 8 September, 1946, Polk Co. (Stiles, 1946); 1 October, 1951, Sidney, Fremont Co. (RMB); 31 December, 1954, Grundy Co. (JRK); 3 November, 1962, Adair Co. (Peterson, 1962).

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Wilson, B. L. 1988. Records of Ferruginous Hawk in Iowa. Iowa Bird Life 58:95-100. (cont)

Ferruginous Hawk Records for Iowa Through 1987

Date	County	Reference	Comment
25 Jun 1901	Black Hawk	DuMont 1933	specimen lost?
before 1907	Linn	Anderson 1907	detail, Clark-
4 Nov 1914	Wapello	Spiker 1924	dead bird, no detail
17 Sep 1917	Woodbury	Stephens 1918	mounted, no detail
2 Apr 1919	Keokuk	DuMont 1933	2, no detail
7 Dec 1919	Story	Stoner 1920	specimen, no detail
3 Oct 1921	Woodbury	Stephens 1930	mounted dark female
23 Nov 1921	Plymouth	Stephens 1930	mounted female
28 Mar 1923	Keokuk	DuMont 1933	2, no detail
17 Mar 1926	Buchanan	Pierce 1930	no detail
6 Jun 1929	Polk	DuMont 1929	2, detail, Clark-
13 Apr 1930	Buchanan	Pierce 1930	no detail
29 Mar 1934	Dallas-Perry	DuMont 1934	2, detail, Clark-
29 Mar 1934	Dallas-Long Pond	DuMont 1934	2, no detail
9 Apr 1934	Dickinson	DuMont 1934	detail, Clark-
11 Apr 1934	Clay	DuMont 1934	no detail
17 Apr 1934	Emmet	DuMont 1934	detail, Clark-
20 Mar 1936	Woodbury	Stiles 1946	no detail
21 Aug 1936	Iowa	Univ. IA specimen 29674	See photos
2 Jan 1939	Johnson	Johnson 1939	3, detail, Clark-
13 May 1946	Dickinson/Emmet	Musgrove et al. 1947	no detail
8 Sep 1946	Polk	Stiles 1946	no detail
1 Oct 1951	Fremont	Brown 1971	no detail
31 Dec 1954	Grundy	IBL 25:10	detail, Clark+
3 Nov 1962	Adair	Petersen 1962	detail, Clark-
1963	Marshall	IBL 34:10	no detail
1963	Cherokee	IBL 34:20	no detail
26 Dec 1966	Bremer	IBL 37:6	no detail
26 Dec 1970	Page	IBL 41:13	detail, Clark-
17 Dec 1972	Story	IBL 43:4	no detail
28 Oct 1973	Page	IBL 43:104	7, detail, Clark+
28 Dec 1974	Bremer	IBL 45:8	no detail
Feb 1977	Lucas	Roosa and Bartlett 1977	no detail
27 Oct 1977	Pocahontas	Gilmer et al. 1985	road kill, banded
27 Oct 1977	Page	doc, IBL 47:144	
Feb 1978	Harrison	IBL 48:70	detail, Clark-
3,7 Feb 1979	Johnson/Iowa	doc (2), IBL 49:24	Clark-
26 Dec 1980	Fremont	doc, IBL 52:42	RC(80-27)-, Clark-
26 Oct 1983	Page	doc, IBL 54:38	RC(83-31)+, Clark+
22 Sep 1984	Marshall	doc, IBL 55:58	RC(84-24)+, Clark+
25 Oct 1984	Pocahontas	doc (2), IBL 55:58	RC(84-23)-, Clark+
23 Dec 1984	Tama	doc, IBL 55:58	RC(84-34)-
28 Mar 1985	Cherokee	doc, IBL 56:44	RC(85-03)-
29 Sep 1985	Story	doc, IBL 86:44	RC(85-16)-, Clark+
1 Feb 1986	Appanoose	doc, IBL 57:78	RC(86-06)-

IBL citations are for Field Reports, Christmas Bird Counts, Bird Banding Summaries, and Records Committee Reports in Iowa Bird Life; doc = documentation on file with Records Committee; no detail = no description of the bird; RC() = Records Committee (record number); Clark = William S. Clark; + = accepted record; - = record not accepted.

Reports since 1970 were all from fall and winter (September through February). Most were from October (5), December (5), and February (4), months when this species is expected. Of course, other hawks, including Krider's Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis krideri*), also migrate through and winter in Iowa during these months and may be confused with Ferruginous Hawk.