

Black-necked Stilt
5 Sep 1994
Storm L., Buena Vista Co., IA
*P. Petersen
IBL 65:14, 81

Record Number: 94-34
Classification: A-D

DOCUMENTATION

Peter C. Petersen, 235 McClellan Blvd., Davenport 52803 [2/23/95]

REFERENCES

Field Reports: IBL 65:14

Records Committee: IBL 65:81

VOTE: 7 A-D

A-D, Lengthy distance from bird even with scope. However, long red legs fairly diagnostic.

A-D, The distance is great, but with a scope view the bird is so distinctive that it would be difficult to misidentify.

A-D, Description is rather brief, but I consider it as convincing as Record 81-AC, which I accepted. Neither is complete, but the species is difficult to mis-identify.

DOCUMENTATION FORM
For Extraordinary Bird Sightings in Iowa

94-34

What species? Black-necked stilt How many? 2

Location? Storm Lake, Buena Vista Co., IA.

Type of Habitat? Island in lake + flying over lake.

When? date(s): Sep. 5, 1994 time: 9:02 to 9:04 C.S.T.

Who? your name and address: Peter C. Petersen, 235 McClellan Blvd. Davenport, IA

Others with you: Brian + Corey Blevins, Kelly McKay

Others before or after you: none to our knowledge

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.

Large shorebirds seen to take flight from island in storm lake, fly toward us (we were on s. shore), then eastward at a right angle to us. seen with Ring-billed Gulls which were larger + had a greater wingspan. Birds were black on the back, white below on tail, + trailed long, red legs. Bill fairly long and straight. They exhibited a very strong, steady flight.

Similar species; how eliminated: No other shorebird is at all similar.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about the identification? yes.

If yes, explain: Kelly McKay, who did not view the birds thru the scope, did not see the red legs + felt his binoc. view not good enough for a positive ID

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), optical equipment. Sun at 90° angle to bird, range 1/4 to 1/2 mile, 10x40 Zeiss binocs, 30x Kowa scope

Previous experience with species and similar ones: Have seen many in Southwest + west, also in IA.

References and persons consulted before writing description: none

How long before field notes made? 30 min. this form completed? 11 hrs.

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