

Thayer's Gull  
18 Feb 1989  
Davenport, Scott Co., IA  
\*P. Petersen  
IBL 59:52, 61:85

Record Number: 89-09  
Classification: A-D

DOCUMENTATION

Peter C. Petersen

REFERENCES

Field Reports: IBL 59:52  
Records Committee: IBL 61:85

VOTE: 7 A-D

A-D. Details sketchy but adequate.

A-D. Although I would like more detail on the location of the silvery underwing, I think this can be concluded as a first-winter Thayer's Gull.

A-D. Good description of first year Thayer's.

A-D. Good details.

A-D. Black tail is the only problem I have with this record; rest of description is good for Thayer's.

A-D. Acceptance based on observer experience and ID by others of Thayer's in the area (as mentioned by Petersen). However I did not like "tail black" and "silvery" underwing. I would not accept this documentation from a lesser observer. (Yes--the observer does count in evaluation of a record!)

SENT TO: Peter C. Petersen, 235 McClellan Blvd., Davenport, IA 52803 [5/31/89].

1. Species: Thayer's Gull Number seen: 1  
(If known) Age: First winter Sex: ? Plumage: First winter

2. Location (including county): Lindsay Park Boat Club harbor, east edge of Davenport

3. Date(s): Feb. 18, 1989 Time of day: 9:50 AM to 9:55 AM

4. Observers -- Your name: Peter C. Petersen Phone: (319) 355-7051

Address: 235 McClellan Blvd. Davenport, IA Zip 52803

Others present: Walter Zuerden

Others before or after you: n.o.b.

5. Describe the habitat the bird(s) was found in and the surrounding habitat:  
On ice shelf along Mississippi River, 40 yards from sea

6. Description: Describe in great detail (but only include what actually was seen in the field (the size, shape and color pattern of the bird(s)). Include a description of the bill, eye, legs, feet, tail, body and wings as well as other diagnostic characteristics.

Immature gull same size as nearby Herring Gulls.  
Head + body tanish white, tail black, rump mottled.  
Head smaller than Herring's, bill more slight, black, &  
not thickened at the tip, compared to Herring's,  
when wings spread - this was seen twice, the  
upper surface seemed fairly uniform with no  
dark tip pattern as in the Herring's, Under wing  
very light, silvery.

Bird seen from about 100 yards with 10X40 binoculars + 20X scope.  
Seen at 90° angle to birds.  
After observation Geo. guide + Master guide checked for  
I.D. points. Notes made 10 min. later, doc. 1 hour later.

Many other observers reported Thayer's Gulls thru Feb. 26  
in this general area.