

Thayer's Gull

7 Dec 1991

Red Rock Reservoir, Marion Co., IA

*T. Kent

IBL 62:55, 70

Record Number: 91-43

Classification: A-D

DOCUMENTATION: Thomas H. Kent

REFERENCES

Field Reports: IBL 62:55

Records Committee: IBL 62:70

VOTE: 7 A-D

A-D, All field marks good for 1st winter Thayer's. Difficult to read.

A-D, I considered Gloucouc-winged Gull, but since the inner webbs of the upper primaries are lighter than the tips or outer webbs and the underwing had two faint dark brown outer primaries I eliminated Glouscouc-winged Gull and feel Thayer's Gull is only choice.

A-D, All field marks for this species noted. Description of tail with light brown subterminal band on a bird that is overall light brown is puzzling, but marks taken together does not describe either a Herring or an Iceland Gull or any other species.

A-D, Adequate details provided.

DOCUMENTATION FORM
For Extraordinary Bird Sightings in Iowa

91-43

What species? Thayer's Gull How many? 1 1st winter

Location? Red Rock Res., Marion Co., IA

Type of Habitat? below dam on river

When? date(s): 7 Dec 1991 8-9 am time: _____ to _____

Who? your name and address: Thomas H. Kent, 211 Richards St, Iowa City, IA 52241

Others with you: about 20 on Lou Field trip

Others before or after you: _____

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.

Overall light brown. Larger than Ring-billed Gulls. Not seen next to Herring Gulls. Underwing flight feathers translucent white except for faint dark brown on outer 2 primaries. Upper wing light brown at tip except for thin lighter inner web of primaries. Light brown faint secondary bar. Tail with light brown subterminal band. Bill all black - rather long and thin. Large pink eye dark with facial smudge. Primaries and tertials brown on standing bird. Corns had fine edging.

Similar species; how eliminated: Much lighter and more uniform than 1st winter Herring Gulls flying in area.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about the identification? no
If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), optical equipment.
Cloudy. 30 yds + 20x scope 10x binoc

Previous experience with species and similar ones: have seen several

References and persons consulted before writing description: none

How long before field notes made? none this form completed? 10 hrs

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