

Sabine's Gull

6 Oct 1996

Black Hawk L., Sac Co., IA

\*P. Ernzen

IBL 67:23, 82

Record Number: 96-63

Classification: A-D

DOCUMENTATION

P. Ernzen, 407 Court, Ida Grove 51445 [4/6/97]

REFERENCES

Field Reports: IBL 67:23

Records Committee: IBL 67:82

VOTE: 6 A-D, 1 A-P

A-P, Juvenile.

A-D, Juvenile.

A-D, The description of the triangular patterns of the upper surface of the wings needs to be discussed more thoroughly but there is not another species that has a light brown mantle, which is diagnostic for this species. Other species of small gulls would have a gray mantle. The shape of the tail is also a concern and should be described as notched and not wedge shaped in this species.

A-D, Adequate description to eliminate the few (if any) alternatives.

96-63

SABINE'S GULL

On the afternoon of October 6 1996, I was "gull watching" at the Northeast corner of Black Hawk Lake in Sac Co. Almost immediately I noticed an immature Sabine's gull. The following is from my notes that were made upon returning home later that afternoon. The gull was small with a light brown mantle striking white triangular wing pattern bordered by black from approximately the wrist area to the tip of wings. The bill was also black and the tail was slightly wedged with a black band.

I observed the bird for approximately 10 minutes from as close as 100 feet (estimated). This is the fourth Sabine's gull that I have seen in the last 3 years all from Black Hawk Lake. This bird stayed for a short time, with no subsequent observations.

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