



What species? THAYER'S GULL How many? 1 (FIRST-WINTER)

Location? BELOW RED ROCK DAM - MARION COUNTY 90-35

Type of habitat? RIVER

When? date(s): 21 NOVEMBER 1990 time: 1:15PM to 1:45PM

Who? your name and address: TIM FULLER, 6 LONGVIEW KNOLL, IOWA CITY

others with you: \_\_\_\_\_

others before or after you: ANN JOHNSON, CHUCK FULLER, JANE FULLER

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, under tail, legs, feet). Also mention voice and behavior.

THERE WERE AS MANY AS 50 FIRST WINTER HERRING GULLS IN THE SAME AREA, AND COMPARISONS WILL BE MADE TO THEM. I FIRST SAW THIS BIRD FLYING, AND THE UNDERWING WAS TRANSLUCENT THROUGHOUT THE PRIMARIES TO THE END OF THE WING (HERRING GULL HAD DARK OUTER PRIMARIES, ALTHOUGH MOST ALSO HAD A LIGHTER WINDOW TYPE AREA MEDIAL TO THIS DARK AREA). THE BIRD WAS ABOUT THE SAME SIZE OR A LITTLE SMALLER THAN THE HERRINGS. THE UPPERWING IN FLIGHT WAS MUCH LIGHTER IN THE PRIMARIES THAN THE FIRST WINTER HERRINGS. I FOLLOWED IT UNTIL IT SAT DOWN ON A GRAVEL BAR ABOUT 80 YARDS AWAY. IT HAD A MORE ROUNDED HEAD THAN THE HERRINGS; THE BILL WAS ALL BLACK AND LEGS LIGHT PINK, AND EYE WAS DARK. ITS COLOR WAS MORE UNIFORM THAN THE HERRINGS AND ALSO LIGHTER - A BROWNISH COLOR. THERE WAS A DARK SMUDGE AROUND THE EYE. THE FEATHER EDGING (WHITISH) PROVIDED MORE CONTRAST WITH THE BROWN ON THE BACK THAN IN THE HERRINGS; AND THE FOLDED ~~SEE~~ TAIL WAS BROWNISH, NOT BLACK. WHEN IN FLIGHT THE TAIL BAND WAS BROWNISH NOT BLACKISH LIKE THE HERRINGS.

Similar species and how eliminated:

HERRING GULL (FIRST WINTER) COMPARED ABOVE

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? NO

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment:

PARTLY CLOUDY MID DAM LOOKED AT STANDING BIRD TOWARD NORTHEAST WITH TSN 4 KOWA SCOPE (20-60X) AND FLYING BIRD WITH SWIFT AUDUBON 8.5X44 BINOCULARS.

Previous experience with species and similar ones:

HAVE SEEN IN IOWA SEVERAL PREVIOUS TIMES

References and persons consulted before writing description:

NAT'L GEOGRAPHIC

How long before field notes made? IMMEDIATE this form completed? 6 1/2 Hours

MAIL TO: T. H. Kent, Field Reports Editor, 211 Richards Street, Iowa City IA 52240