

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? BLACK THROATED BLUE WARBLER How many? 1 FEMALELocation? MY BACKYARDType of habitat? SHRUBBERY IN A SUBURBAN YARDWhen? date(s): 8 SEPT. 1986 time: 1:50 to 1:51 PMWho? your name and address: JIM FULLER

others with you: _____

others before or after you: SEE ADDITIONAL PAGE

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.

THE FIRST THING THAT DREW MY ATTENTION ON ^{DARK} THIS BIRD WAS THE WHITE SQUARE ON THE WING.
 EVENTUALLY I SAW IT ON BOTH SIDES OF THE BIRD. IT WAS WARBLER SIZE AND SHAPE. THERE WAS AN EYE LINE WHICH WAS OFF-WHITE. THE HEAD AND ABOVE THE EYE LINE WAS A GRAY-GREEN AND THE BACK WAS MORE OF A GRAY OR GRAY BROWN COLOR. THE SIDES BELOW THE WING WERE A LIGHT BROWN OR EVEN A YELLOW BROWN. THE UNDERTAIL WAS LIGHTER. THE LEGS AND BILL WERE DARK. I DID NOT LOOK AT ANY FIELD GUIDES UNTIL I HAD WRITTEN NOTES, BUT THE BIRD LOOKED MUCH LIKE NAT'L GEOGRAPHIC ILLUSTRATION, EXCEPT THE BACK & TOP OF HEAD OF BIRD I SAW WERE MORE GRAY-GREEN THAN THE BROWN OF BIRD ILLUSTRATED.

Similar species and how eliminated:

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? _____

If yes, explain:

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

SEEN AT 20-25 FEET FROM LIVING ROOM WINDOW WITH 9X36 BINOCULARS. THE SKY WAS SUNNY, ALTHOUGH BIRD WAS IN THE SHADE.

Previous experience with species and similar ones: HAVE ONLY SEEN 1 MALE IN WISCONSIN.

References and persons consulted before writing description:

NAT'L GEOG., PETERSON, ROBBINS

How long before field notes made? IMMEDIATE this form completed? IMMEDIATE

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go hawks

NOTE:

THREE DAYS (9/11/66) AFTER THE BIRD DOCUMENTED WAS OBSERVED I SAW ANOTHER BIRD OF ALMOST EXACT IDENTITY. IT WAS SHORTLY AFTER 12 NOON IN VIRTUALLY THE SAME PLACE IN MY YARD AND AFTER A COLD FRONT HAD PASSED LEAVING QUITE A FALL OUT OF WARBLERS AND OTHER MIGRANTS.

THE ONLY DIFFERENCES IN THE OBSERVATION WERE:

- (1) WEATHER - OVERCAST & MISTING
- (2) LENGTH OF TIME - SHORTER, ONLY OBSERVED BIRD 20-30 SECS.
- (3) THE LIGHT EYE LINE APPEARED TO BE SLIGHTLY YELLOW OR YELLOW-BROWN
- (4) ONCE, WHILE THE BIRD MOVED ITS WING FEATHERS, THE WHITE PATCH DISAPPEARED AND THEN REAPPEARED SEVERAL SECONDS LATER.