

REQUEST FOR MORE INFORMATION

To: Mark Proescholdt

From: Tom Kent, Field Reports Editor, Iowa Bird Life, 211 Richards St., Iowa City, IA 52246

Sometimes I am on the fence as to whether to include a bird sighting in the report or not, usually because I don't have enough information or the sighting is so unusual that I would like to check on it. I have a choice of making a decision or seeking more information. This form is an attempt to do the latter.

I would appreciate it if you would return this form in the enclosed self-addressed stamped envelope as soon as possible so that I can make alterations in the report before it is published. Thanks.

Record: Hermit Thrush, 11 May 1995 Peterson Pits, Story Co.

Significance: 2nd latest, I am a great devotee of Hermit Thrushes in May (although they were late this year & I saw one on the 3rd).

Information requested:

- confirm date
- how well seen (viewing time, distance, view, other details)
- description of bird (as much as you can honestly remember)
- voice (heard?, what was heard?)
- can other observers also provide details?

Yes — 1 Hermit Thrush was seen May 11, 1995, at Peterson Pits Co. Area in Story Co.

Beth Proescholdt, Russ Widner, and I all had very good definitive looks at this Hermit Thrush. There was no doubt at all that we saw a Hermit Thrush.

I would estimate we saw the Thrush at least 15-20 seconds. It was 4'-5' off the ground near the trail we were on and probably around 15 yards away. It was a sunny day and we had very good looks at the Hermit Thrush.

(Mom and I love watching thrushes — they're very special! We spend lots of time watching thrushes in migration and have them down well.)

As I recall, the thrush hopped up from the ground. It had a very rusty-red tail that was rustier than the color of the back of the thrush which was a duller color than the rusty tail. Definitely a marked difference in coloration between the tail color and the back color. This made a

(over)

5 Thrush species morning for us after seeing 2 Veerys,
2 Gray-cheeked Thrushes, ^{and} 1 Swainson's Thrush at McFarland
Co. Park nearby as well as hearing a Wood Thrush there.

And as I'm pretty sure that it did, it slowly lifted
its rusty tail upward just as Hermit Thrushes do.

These are Mom's Records for May
Hermit Thrushes at Grammer Grove Co. Park - Marshall Co.

May 1	-	2	Hermit Thrushes	-	with Ramona Sommerlot
May 2	-	2-3	" "	-	with Ramona
May 3	-	3+	" "	-	with Mark P.
May 5	-	1	" "	-	with Russ Widner

(Mom was absent from Grammer Grove - May 6, 7, + 8)

None seen May 9 + 10 at Grammer Grove

May 10, 1995 - Big Marsh - Butler Co. - (Beth P., Mark P.
Russ Widner, Ramona Sommerlot)

Russ saw a Hermit Thrush along a trail.

He was the first along the trail, I believe. He had pretty good
looks, I think.

I saw a peek at ^{the} Thrush. All I could tell from
my distance was that it was a Thrush sp. for sure.