

Thayer's Gull

3 Jan 1987

Red Rock Res., Marion Co., IA

*T. Kent

record withdrawn by documenter; IBL 57:56, 58:76

Record Number: 87-03

Classification: NA

DOCUMENTATION

Thomas H. Kent

REFERENCES

Field Reports: IBL 57:56

Records Committee: IBL 58:76

VOTE: 1-II, 5-III, 1-IV

III, Not a great documentation, but convincing enough. Sort of a distant view and notes not made for four hours.

IV, To be consistent with my other votes, I don't think we should confirm this species when seen at such a great distance./thk

III, Documentation supports 1st yr. Thayer's Gull, done well enough to eliminate Herring.

III, Darker, wide terminal tail band would seem to eliminate Iceland.

II, Combine with Dec. records this location.

III, Description eliminates Herring and Kumlein's (latter by darker tail band).

III, ? distant.

RECORD WITHDRAWN by documenter at meeting, 30 May 1987.

DOCUMENTATION FORM
For Extraordinary Bird Sightings in Iowa

87-03

What species? Thayer's Gull How many? 1 1st-yr

Location? Red Rock Res., Mason Co., Iowa

Type of Habitat? reservoir, partly frozen

When? date(s): 3 January 1987 time: 1:30 to 1:45 (est)

Who? your name and address: Thomas H. Kent, 211 Richards St, Iowa City, IA 52240

Others with you: Tom Staudt

Others before or after you: Steve Ausmore, others

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.

While scanning a Blainson Gull from highway 14, I saw a light ~~br~~ brown gull fly. It had uniform brown upper wing surfaces except for slight dark at leading edge of primaries. It banked once so I could see silvery flight feathers from below. It appeared almost light enough to be a first-year Blainson, but it had a darker wide terminal tail band. We watched it fly for several minutes and then it lit in water. It was slightly smaller than two Herring Gulls and the head appeared smaller. We saw it fly again some way, and again noted the uniform upper wings.

Similar species; how eliminated: The uniform coloration and lack of dark wing tips were the main marks used to separate it from Herring Gull.

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

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), optical equipment.
20x scope, side light (sunny), 1/4 - 1/2 mile.

Previous experience with species and similar ones: have seen several, including two at this location this fall.

References and persons consulted before writing description: none

How long before field notes made? 4 hrs this form completed? 4 hrs

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