

Black-billed Magpie

29 Dec 1990

Woodbury, Sioux City Co., IA

\*Probst

IBL 61:50, 58; 64:68

Record Number: 93-IF

Classification: A-D

DOCUMENTATION

Jerry Probst, 1324 S. St Aubin, Sioux City 51106

REFERENCES

Field Reports: IBL 61:50, 58

Records Committee: IBL 64:68

VOTE: 7 A-D

A-D, Hard to miss this bird.

A-D, Details are minimal but sufficient. This species is fairly distinct.

A-D, I am taking it on faith that this bird was in Iowa.

## DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

CBC  
93-IFWhat species? BLACK-billed MAGPIE How many? 1Location? EAST OF FLOYD MONUMENT BRIDGE ACROSS MO. RIVER WOODBURY CO.

Type of habitat? \_\_\_\_\_

When? date(s): 12-29-90 time: 4:30 to \_\_\_\_\_Who? your name and address: JERRY PROBST 1324 So St. AUBIN  
SIOUX CITY IA 51106others with you: NONE

others before or after you: \_\_\_\_\_

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.

I WAS ON THE INTERCHANGE APPROACH TO THE BRIDGE ON THE IA SIDE. I SAW A BLACK + WHITE BIRD FLYING OVER THE RIVER IN AN EASTERLY DIRECTION. I INSTANTLY COULD TELL IT WAS A MAGPIE BY THE SIZE, BLACK AND WHITE COLOR AND OF COURSE THE LONG TAIL.

I COULD TELL THE HEAD AND BACK WAS BLACK AND THE BELLY AREA WAS WHITE. I COULD ALSO SEE WHITE ON THE WINGS CONTRASTING WITH THE BACK AND ON THE PRIMARIES.

Similar species and how eliminated: NOTHING WITH THAT PROFILE LARGER + BLACKER THAN A BLUEJAY. WHITE COLOR + TAIL ELIMINATE CROW

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? NONE

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment: OVERCAST APPROX. 50 YARDS. UNABLE TO STOP UNTIL ACROSS BRIDGE + TRUCK PASSED. IT WAS GONE BY THIS TIME

Previous experience with species and similar ones: SEVERAL NESTS IN DAKOTA CO. NE LESS THAN 10 MILES AWAY.

References and persons consulted before writing description: N.G. FIELD GUIDEHow long before field notes made? 24 hrs this form completed? 12-31-90