ZMATEL FIELD REPORTS FORM for submitting seasonal observations of Iowa birds Pagel of 1 Season: SPRING Year: 1983 Name and Diane C. Porter address Other observers (name, city): (print 908 E. Briggs, Fairfield, IA 52556 or type) Use first few lines to give weather and habitat ~ conditions. Use line(s) below species data to give additional details, if needed. Mail to: T. H. Kent, 211 Richards St., Iowa City IA 52240 use initials of obsv. on species line by 1 Mar, 1 Jun, 1 Aug, or 1 Dec. SPECIES LOCATION - COMMENT - OTHER OBSERVERS NO. DATE DENSE DECIDUOUS WOODS: COOL EVENING: BARRED OWLS 2+ 5/4/83 LACEY KEOSAUQUA. OWLS HEARD, NOT SEEN COMMON NIGHTHAWK 1 5/9/83 FAIRFIELD, JEFFERSON CO. FIRST I SAW THIS YEAF CHIMNEY SWIFT 4 4/21/83 FAIRFIELD. FIRST I SAW HERE THIS YEAR YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER 1 4/21/83 FAIRFIELD. MALE, BATHING IN SNOW ON HIGH HORIZONTAL BRANCH OF DECIDUOUS TREE. RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET 1 4/20/83 FAIRFIELD. FIRST I SAW HERE THIS YEAR. SWAINSON'S THRUSH 5/13 & 5/20-23 FAIRFIELD. 1 love seen each time. TENNESSEE WARBLER 2 5/7&21 FAIRFIELD ON 5/21 THE BIRD WAS SINGING CAPE MAY WARBLER 1 male 5/23/83 FAIRFIELD (SINGING & FEEDING) BLACKPOLL WARBLER 1 male 5/13/83 FAIRFIELD 1 female 5/26 FAIRFIELD (same place as or of 5/13) BLACK-&-WHITE WARBLER 1 5/5/83 LACEY KEOSAUQUA INDIGOBUNTING 1 5/17/83 FAIRFIELD. FIRST I SAW THIS YEAR. . . 11 CHIPPING SPARROW 11 1 4/16/83 11 11 11 WHITE-THROATED SPARROW 1 3/21/83 FAIRFIELD DARK-EYED "OREGON" JUNCO 1 4/23/83 FAIRFIELD. X V PURPLE FINCH 5/9/83 1 FAIRFIELD. LAST ONE I SAW AT FEEDER

Season: Winter Year:		me and Diane C. Porter	
Other observers (name, ci	ty):		rint 908 E. Briggs, Fairfield, IA 52556 type)
use initials of obsv. on		es line l	Use first few lines to give weather and habita conditions. Use line(s) below species data to give additional details, if needed. Mail to: T. H. Kent, 211 Richards St., Iowa City IA 522 by 1 Mar, 1 Jun, 1 Aug, or 1 Dec.
SPECIES	NO.	DATE	LOCATION - COMMENT - OTHER OBSERVERS
Slushy snow on the ground	temp	33° in	afternoon; bird sighted briefly at 4:45 P.M.
Frown thrasher	1	Feb. 10	Fairfield, IA, Jefferson Co. At feeder in to
Snowy day, 20° at 7 A.M.			
'ine siskin	1	Jan. 11	Fairfield, IA. Taking niger seed from feede
Photographs available.			
incoln's sparrow	1	Feb 3-11	& Feb 15-18 Fairfield, IA, Jefferson Co.
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DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa
What species? LINCOLN'S SPARROW How many? 1
Location? 908 East Briggs, Fairfield, Iowa; contiguous with Forest Park (Jefferson Co.)
Type of habitat? Ground-level feeding station by patio; in town, next to small park.
When? date(s): Feb. 3-11 & Feb. 15-18, '83 time: see below to
Who?your name and address: Diane C. Porter 908 E. Briggs, Fairfield, IA 52556
others with you:Michael K. Porter
others before or after you: pone

4/12/82

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.

"Feb. 3, 1983 A rather unvigorous-looking Lincoln's sparrow came in the snow to where I'd cleared the ground and scattered seed. He seemed to be going for the white millet. He was smaller than a junco," (a flock of which were feeding with him) "with buffy breast, Afinely streaked, barely showing central spot. Rufous stripes on crown, but median stripe not rufous. Buffy mustache. Tiny white eye ring."

On Feb. 8-11, a song sparrow also frequented the feeding area, often at the same time, and the Lincoln's was smaller, slighter, with more delicate streaks, which were restricted to the area of the distinctive buffy band across the upper breast. The mustache of the Lincoln's was also buffy in contrast to the song sparrow's, and the latter's dark whisker, below the mustache, was also heavier and more pronounced.

(The Lincoln's) "seemed to have only one leg, or to use only one. At any rate, he hopped one-legged." The first day the bird huddled against the ground quite a bit, with its feathers fluffed out. (It was a cold day, but this bird seemed to be functioning less well than the other birds at the feeder.) "Upper mandible darker, lower lighter." Michael Porter and I discussed the buffy breast band, fine streaking, buffy mustache, very small eye ring, and rufous crown stripes while we were both observing the bird.

"Feb. 4 Lincoln's sparrow looks friskier today." The bird did seem to improve during the period he stayed and resumed using both legs.

I saw it most mornings at about 7 A.M. and most afternoons. When alarmed it often took shelter in a low part of a four-foot Scotch pine adjacent to the feeding area, while the juncos, finches, and other sparrows tended to fly up into branches of taller trees. This bird was less timid than other Lincoln sparrows I have known and seemed to become about as comfortable with being watched through the window as the house sparrows. I never heard it make any sound.

Similar species and how eliminated: Buffy breast band and mustache ruled out song sparrow; distinct stripes the swamp sparrow and tree sparrow; small size the fox sparrow or female purple finch. I did not consider immature field sparrow at the time, but buffy mustache & rufous crown stripes seem to rule it out.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? No

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment: Lighting varied, but I observed the bird at least once each day on 13 days, some sunny, some overcast, some snowing, at morning and afternoon times. Distance varied from 15 to 30 feet. Binoculars: Zeiss 10X25 & Zeiss 8X30 mounted on tripod.

Previous experience with species and similar ones: One to four Lincoln's sparrows frequented my feeding station in Santa Barbara, CA, during winters 76-77,77-78,78-79, &79-80.

References and persons consulted before writing description: None before writing initial description (in quotes); Peterson and Robbins during preparation of this report.

How long before field notes made<u>?immediately></u> this form completed? <u>2 months</u>, <u>4 days</u> won first sighting. MAIL TO: T. H. Kent, Field Reports Editor, 211 Richards Street, Iowa City IA 52240