

Black-backed Woodpecker
13 May 1979
east of Hull, Sioux Co., IA
Gilbert Blankenspoor
Blankenspoor 1979

Record Number: 81-CO
Classification: A-D

REFERENCES

Blankenspoor, G.W. 1979. Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker in northwest Iowa. IBL 49:86.

Field Reports: [not mentioned]

VOTE (1981): 7-III

III, excellent detail and behavior fits.

III, May be same individual as #7.

III, cavalier description -- but perhaps OK.

III, Critical field marks noted. Date of record seems somewhat unusual (late).

Blankenspoor, G. W. 1979. Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker in
northwest Iowa. Iowa Bird Life 49:86

Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker in Northwest Iowa -- On May 13, 1979, while walking through a grove of trees on my parents' farm, located four miles east of Hull in Sioux County, Iowa, I noticed a medium-sized woodpecker removing bark fragments from a fallen log. Upon closer inspection, the bird turned to be a male Black-backed, Three-toed Woodpecker (*Picoides arcticus*), a species which is known to occasionally move south during the winter. 8

I observed the bird in good light at approximately 1300 hours from a distance of approximately eight meters. Identifying marks such as the golden crown, black-back and three-toed condition were clearly visible. The bird was flaking bark in typical fashion. -- GILBERT W. BLANKENSPoor, Asst. Prof. of Biology, Augustana College, Sioux Falls, S. D.