

## DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? Ruby-crowned Kinglet How many? 1Location? North wing of Lake Macbride, Johnson County (approx. 1 mi. west of Solon in Iowa Conservation Commission Wildlife Refuge.)Type of habitat? Small grove of deciduous saplings in frozen marshy area.When? date(s): 19 Dec 1981 (CBC) time: 0815 to 0816Who? your name and address: James P. Sandrock, 1634 Morningside Drive, Iowa City *JPS*others with you: No other observers of birdothers 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.

Immediately after seeing bird I described it orally to Tom Staudt and Jody Sandrock. When we returned to car approx. 30 min. later I dictated the following description:

"A small bird--warbler sized (approx. 4 inches?); black wing with two bright, white wing bars; plain greenish-white breast; darker green back and cap; prominent white eye ring; small black bill and black legs. The bird was fairly active."

In addition, the bird had a darkish, short tail, but I never did get a good clear look at tail color or formation. I did not see a crown patch. The color of the bird was what the bird books say is 'olive.' The breast and belly were a uniformly plain, unmarked greenish-tinged white. The cap extended below the eye ring. The bird was chunkier than the usually streamlined warbler type.

Similar species and how eliminated: Fall Chestnut-sided Warbler about same size with eye ring, but has longer bill, is a much brighter green, and has yellow wing bars.

Fall Pine Warbler is more drab, has duller wing bars, longer bill.

Obviously not Golden-crowned Kinglet.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? N/A

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment:

Sun behind clouds--overcast--typical gray, winter a.m. lighting. Bird about 5 feet above ground in tree about 10-15 feet (est) from me. I could clearly see bird without binoculars. But I did look at it through 7 x 35 binoculars.

Previous experience with species and similar ones: Have seen many kinglets--both species-- Have seen a number of fall Chestnut-sided Warblers; only one fall Pine Warbler.

References and persons consulted before writing description: Tom Staudt; Jody Sandrock (on site); Peterson and Robbins field guides (at home).

How long before field notes made? 30 minutes this form completed? 48 hours

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