

## DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? Hooded Warbler How many? 2Location? Pellett Wildlife Refuge - Cass CountyType of habitat? Bottomland wooded area - dominant trees included silver maple, basswood, slippery elm and hackberry; understory partial.When? date(s): May 15, 1982 time: 10:15am to 10:25 amWho? your name and address: R. Craig Hensley, 13 Ridge Road, Atlantic, Iowa 50022others with you: No oneothers before or after you: None that I know of

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 observed this bird, the male, in a wooded area approximately 5 to 15 feet above the ground (the female was also around but I only watched the male). This was a small bird with a narrow, thin beak and the colors of a warbler. This bird had a yellow face patch, through the eyes, surrounded by a black hood that extended from the top of the head down the side, around the neck back up the side to the crown (see drawing). The remainder of the bird was yellow with a light olive color on the wings and back. I was not aware of the white on the tail. This bird was in the same area as the blackpoll warbler and black-and-white warbler. From what I saw of the female, it appeared to be yellow about the head, breast and belly and light olive on the wings and back. I did not see any crest on the side of its head. Neither bird sang or made any calls.



Similar species and how eliminated: The bachman's warbler and the Kentucky warbler are somewhat similar, however, neither species has the distinct hood and yellow face, therefore, I ruled these species out.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? NA

If yes, explain:

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

I was in the woods where it was shaded, fortunately I was only about 25 feet (estimated) from the birds and had Bushnell 8 x 30 binoculars.

Previous experience with species and similar ones: I have seen the hooded warbler on one other occasion - in Arkansas and I have seen the kentucky warbler, References and persons consulted before writing description: also in Arkansas.

Referred to Peterson's field guide, but was already sure of identification  
How long before field notes made? 5 minutes this form completed? August 11 as I was not aware that this was such an unusual sighting for SW Iowa.

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