

VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD

1. Species SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER 2. Number 1  
 3. Location 2miles NE of East Amana, IA. Iowa County  
 4. Date April 26, 1981 5. Time bird seen: 1:00PM to 2:30PM

6. Description of size, shape, and color pattern (describe in great detail all parts of the plumage, and beak and feet coloration, in addition to the diagnostic characteristics, but include only what was actually seen in the field).

SEE BACK SIDE

7. Description of voice, if heard:  
 No voice heard

8. Description of behavior:  
 SEE BACK SIDE

9. Habitat--general: Along dry sandy road in open rolling pastureland with  
 specific: scattered small to large trees. Across road was large  
 open grassy field.

10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6,7,&8. Explain.  
 SEE BACK SIDE

11. Distance (how measured). as close as 20 yards with 7X binoculars and 20X scope.  
 Distance was estimated.

12. Light conditions (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you):  
 Sky clear with midday sun at our backs when viewing bird.

13. Optical equipment: 7X binos and 20-45X scope.

14. Previous experience with this and similar species: None with scissor tail, have  
 seen Western Kingbird perhaps half dozen times. ~~XXXXXX~~

15. Other observers: Lanny Haldy and Randy Graesser of East Amana, IA., and Tom  
 Kent, Tom Shires, and Rick Hollis of Iowa City.

16. Did other agree with your identification? Yes, all agreed.

17. Other observers who independently identified this bird: Was seen and identified  
 later by Mike and Carol Newlon and Cal and Bernie Knight of Iowa City.

18. Books, illustrations, and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description:  
 Robbins checked while actually viewing bird. Confirmed that this was  
 immature scissor tail. Confirmed presence of crimson under wing

19. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description? Notes on  
 plumage made 15 minutes after observation. Full details within 48 hours

Your Name CARL J. BENDORF Address \*825 7th Ave. Iowa City, IA.

52240

Date 5-28-81 City, State: \_\_\_\_\_

USE ADDITIONAL SHEET OR BACK SIDE

6. Slim graceful body about size of catbird. Bill straight and dark and of medium proportions-flycatcher type. Underside and breast and throat whitish. Head, face and back a uniform gray color. Wings black and long mainly black tail feathers. White outer edging on tail and tail as long again as the body itself. When bird flew or raised its wings, crimson or pale scarlet wing linings very prominent. Tail forked deeply into two feather when bird flew or shifted position on perch.

8. First spotted on wire fence-would sally forth in flycatcher fashion and return to same spot. Would fly and perch in top of various scattered trees. From a perch several time it flew straight in the air 50-75 feet, caught a large insect, and swooped back to perch with long tail "scissoring" open and closed. Once landed on top of tall weed. Very active bird. Graceful in flight and somewhat acrobatic.

10. Western Kingbird- would ~~have~~ not have scarlet wing linings and distinct scissor type tail.

This was an immature bird as an adult scissor-tail would have a tail twice as long as the body. There might also be more indication of red on the shoulder beside the folded wing.

Along dry sandy road in open rolling prairie with scattered small to large trees. Across road was large open grassy field.

SEE BACK SIDE

Sky clear with midday sun at observer when viewing bird.

Optical equipment: 7X binos and 20-45X scope.

None with scissor tail, have seen western Kingbird perhaps half dozen times. None with scissor tail, have seen western Kingbird perhaps half dozen times. None with scissor tail, have seen western Kingbird perhaps half dozen times.

Other observers who independently identified this bird: later by Mike and Carol Jewison and Cal and Bernice Knight of Iowa City. Hobbins checked while actually viewing bird. Confirmed presence of crimson under wing.

How long after observing this bird did you first write this description? Full details within 48 hours. \*825 7th Ave. Iowa City, IA.

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City, State:

18-25-5