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Pine Grosbeak

On Nov. 11, 1984 we saw a pine grosbeak from 11-11:05 a.m. in the Conklin Fish Farm in Cass Co. Light conditions - overcast, heavy cloud cover.

We heard a distinctive 2-note call (1st note higher pitched than the 2nd) which was unfamiliar to us. We found a robin-sized bird in the top of a Chinese elm in a stand of deciduous trees just east and adjacent to the Conklin property. It was about 75 feet above the ground, and appeared to be eating buds. It was mostly gray with dark wings with 2 white wing bars. It had a long, dark notched tail; light yellowish-orange rump, and a black, thick rather short bill. We couldn't see any yellow color around the head. It appeared to be the same gray as the body. The dull light conditions may have been responsible for the washed out color.

Binoculars used were Nikon 9x25 & Bushnell Custom Compact 6x25.