

## DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? HENSHLOW'S SPARROW How many? 2Location? WEEDY HAYFIELD NEAR LACEY-KEOSAUQUA S.P. - VAN BUREN CO.Type of habitat? WEEDY HAYFIELDWhen? date(s): 11 JUNE 1987 time: 5:45 AM to 6:10 AMWho? your name and address: JIM FULLER, 6 LONGVIEW KNOLL, IOWA CITY, IA, 52240

others with you: \_\_\_\_\_

others before or after you: PROESCHOLDTS (BEFORE) SANDROCK CECIL, C. J. FULLER, KNIGHTS (AFTER)

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.

OBSERVED 2 BIRDS, ONE BRIEFLY, THE OTHER OVER AN EXTENDED PERIOD - BOTH SAT 'ON TALL GRASS' OR WEED STALKS SINGING. THE SONG WAS AN UNMUSICAL SLURRED 2 NOTES THAT SOUNDED LIKE "SHLICK". SONG GIVEN EVERY 15-30 SECONDS. SMALL SPARROW SIZED BIRD WITH A VERY SHORT AND NOTCHED TAIL. SAT ON THE WEED WITH TAIL DOWN & BACK STRAIGHT. OTHER THINGS WHICH WERE NOTED - A FLAT HEAD WITH A LIGHT CENTRAL STRIPE. SIDE OF HEAD & NAPE WERE A UNIQUE GREENISH-BROWN. THROAT WAS WHITE, UPPER BREAST HAD A DARK VERTICAL STREAKED NECKLACE. SIDE OF WING SHOWED REDDISH-BROWN COLOR. WHEN THE BIRD FLEW, IT FLEW SOMEWHAT VERTICALLY (RATHER THAN HORIZONTALLY) AND HAD A STRANGE SIDE-TO-SIDE MOTION. GENERAL APPEARANCE DURING FLIGHT WAS AWKWARD.

Similar species and how eliminated:

GRASSHOPPER - SONG, HEAD & WING COLOR + SONG  
SAVANNAH - HEAD & WING COLOR, AMOUNT OF BREAST STRIPING + SONG

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? NO

If yes, explain:

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

EARLY MORNING; OVERCAST; 9x36 BINOCULARS AT 40-100 FEET.

Previous experience with species and similar ones: ONE TIME IN WISCONSINReferences and persons consulted before writing description: PETERSON GUIDEHow long before field notes made? IMMEDIATE this form completed? 14 HOURS  
ON TAPE

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