

BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF
AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD

1. Species Henslow Sparrow 2. Number 1
3. Location Cone Marsh Louisa County Iowa
4. Date: April 30 1982 5. Time Bird Seen: 8:30 am to 9:00 am

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 actually was seen in the field):

This bird was seen only briefly ^{once} as it flew, no visual description can be provided. Identification is based on song.

A short two-parted hiccupping call (Tess-lick) was heard in a moist grassy area east and south of the east end of the Cone Marsh dike. The song was heard about 20-30 times and recorded with a portable Panasonic recorder. No exterior mic was used. I composed my recording with the song of the Henslow Sparrow on the Peterson tapes and the songs were the same. Tom Kent and Carl Bendorf listened to my recording and agreed it was a Henslow Sparrow.

7. Description of voice, if heard:
8. Description of behavior:
9. Habitat - general:
specific:
10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7 & 8. Explain:
while singing, the bird was apparently walking further away from us because the song was coming from spots further away from where we started.

11. Distance (how measured)?

12. Optical equipment:

13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you):

14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species:

Tom Kent and I made a trip to Hayden Prairie early in June 1981 to observe and photograph and record this bird.

15. Other observers: James Huntington

16. Did the others agree with your identification? YES

17. Other observers who independently identified this bird: on May 10 1982 a Henslow Sparrow was seen and heard in the same location by Carl Bendorf, Tom Kent, Ross Silcock and myself.

18. Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description:

19. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description? 4 hours.

Signature: Thomas J Staudt Address: 931 N. Summit

Date: May 25 1982 City, State: Iowa City, Ia.