

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

~~8510~~What species? Lark Bunting How many? 1 maleLocation? 5e. 1s. of Hawarden, SW Sioux Co, IAType of habitat? grassy road edge next to corn fieldWhen? date(s): 24 May 1984 time: 10 Am to 10:01 Am (est)Who? your name and address: Thomas H. Kent, 211 Richards St, Iowa City, IA 52240others with you: Ross Silcockothers before or after you: None

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.

An all black bird with big white wing patch on fence wire. About the size of a cowbird. Conical bill. The wing patch appeared to have anterior and posterior parts - but not separate. The bird flew off in a few seconds and we watched it for about 1/2 mile and lost it.

Similar species and how eliminated: No similar speciesDid any one disagree or have reservations about identification? no

If yes, explain:

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

~~45°~~ Sun behind us at 45°, 30 yds (est), 10x binocs.Previous experience with species and similar ones: have seen manyReferences and persons consulted before writing description: NoneHow long before field notes made? dictated 1-5 min. this form completed? 2 weeks

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