

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? Henslow's Sparrow How many? At least 6 singing malesLocation? Clayton Co: Sperry Twp. (T92N, R6W, Sect 29)Type of habitat? Bromel alfalfa pastureWhen? date(s): 20 May 1984 time: 1930 to 2000Who? your name and address: David Ewert, 1800 Watrous #19C, Des Moines, IA 50315others with you: Larry Stoneothers before or after you: None known

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.

Birds first detected singing. Finally, a relatively large-headed, short-tailed sparrow was seen while singing. Poor lighting conditions prevented obtaining details on color but the greenish-yellow side of the head was noted by Larry Stone.

Similar species and how eliminated: Distinctive song coupled w/ sketchy view of bird while singingDid any one disagree or have reservations about identification? No

If yes, explain:

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

7x35 binocular; sun setting. Distance from bird: 100 ft.

Previous experience with species and similar ones: Much experience w/ species in Mich. Habitat in Iowa similar to that in Mich.References and persons consulted before writing description: Peterson, "A field guide to the birds" briefly checked.How long before field notes made? 15 mins. this form completed? 2 days

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