

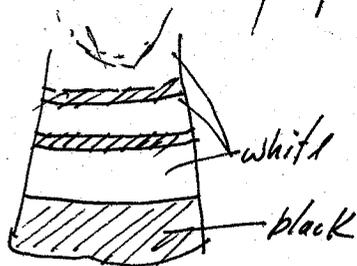
BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

REPORT FORM

This form is intended as a convenience in reporting observations of unusual birds. It may be used flexibly and need not be used at all. Leave blank any details not observed. Attach additional sheets if necessary. Please print or type. Attach drawings, photographs, etc.; include all photos if an obscurely marked species. When completed, mail to the Secretary of the LOS Bird Records Committee.

1. Common and scientific name: *Zone-tailed Hawk*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g. 2ad. in breeding plumage): *1 adult or near-adult*
3. Locality: Louisiana: *1.9mi above Violet* Parish: *St. Bernard*
On Mississippi R. pasture
4. Date(s) when seen: *Dec. 24, 1984*
5. Times of day when seen: *7-10 a.m.*
6. Reporting observer and address: *R.D. BERRINGTON*
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird:
Sid Gauthreaux, Norton Nelkin, Jim and James Holmes, Phillip Wallace, Cecil
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird: *Kerating, ~~and~~ Curt Savrells, Glenn Ouseff*
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): *Fog 7-9; then clearing to fair skies, good light*
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): *7X35 binoculars, Bushnell scope*
11. Distance to bird: *75yds at max, 8ft at minimum*
12. Duration of observation: *3 hours*
13. Habitat (general and specific):
willows on Miss R. pasture
14. Behavior (flying, feeding, resting, etc.; include and stress any habits used in identification): *perched in willows at river's edge. Forced to fly four times*
15. Description (Include only what was actually seen, not what "should" have been seen. Include if possible: total length; body bulk; shape, bill, eye, and leg characteristics; color and pattern of plumage, etc. Stress field marks):

All black except for flight feathers (primaries and secondaries) which were silvery gray, and tail, which was as shown below



Cere yellow, skin at base of bill gray. Iris dark brown, pupil black

Track was found by Tristan Davis & party previous
day, and identified as Com. Black Hawk.

16. Voice:

17. Similar species (include how they are eliminated by your observations):

Com. Black Hawk -- light flight feathers, tail pattern
incl. Short-tailed Hawk - size
incl. Broad-winged Hawk - size, tail pattern, ~~tail~~

18. Photographs (Was it photographed? By whom? Attached?):

Two rolls at as close as 10ft -- Perrington; not
processed as of 12/26/84

19. Previous experience with this species:

Arizona

20. Aids: List books, illustrations, birders, etc. used in identification

a) at time of observation; Nat'l Geographic, Peterson's Mexican Guide,
b) after observation: Peterson's western guide, Robbins

21. This description written from: taped notes made during observation; ✓ notes
made after observation; _____ memory.

22. Are you positive of your identification? _____. If not, explain:

23. Signature of reporter: 

24. Date and time of writing this account:

12/26/84

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1. Common and scientific name: *Zone-tailed Hawk*, ^{Buteo} *Alsonotatus*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g. 2ad. in breeding plumage): 1 2nd year? ^{bird}
3. Locality: Louisiana: Violet Parish: St. Bernard
4. Date(s) when seen: 12/24/84
5. Times of day when seen: 6:30-10:15
6. Reporting observer and address: Norton Melkin, 1238 Eight St., N.O., LA 70115
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird: Sidney Gauthreaux, Dan Purrington, Jim Holmes Sr., Jim Holmes, Jr., Kurt Sorrels, Philip Wallace,
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird: Cecil Kirsting
Nancy Newfield, Skip Newfield, Tristan David, John Severin
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): from fog to good sunlight, low to medium height, coming over shoulder. (At times perfect!)
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): 7X50 binoculars & 20 power Bushnell scope, both in good shape.
11. Distance to bird: 30 yards down to fifteen yards
12. Duration of observation: Almost 4 hours
13. Habitat (general and specific):

Willows along Mississippi River

14. Behavior (flying, feeding, resting, etc.; include and stress any habits used in identification): Perched, often at awkward angles. Bird had ^{apparently} injured right wing which it held away from its body. This allowed me to see that flight feathers were lighter than rest of wing. Bird was very hard to spook and flew only short distances when it was.
15. Description (Include only what was actually seen, not what "should" have been seen. Include if possible: total length; body bulk; shape, bill, eye, and leg characteristics; color and pattern of plumage, etc. Stress field marks):

General overall plumage black (not dark brown). Bright yellow cere surrounded by gray facial patch. Eye brown w/ black pupil. Gray ~~eyelid~~ eyelid, forming a ring-like look around eye. Bill blackish. Legs yellow. Whitish feathers on nape and on top of head. Undertail was as follows (seen only when very close and in good light):



Tail was badly worn - no white tip visible. Broad black stripe at end (over)

A few white feathers on body.

then white stripe, then thin black stripe (seen only close up), then another ~~white~~ stripe, then ~~a~~ ^{group} black stripe, then white again.

Bill was deeply hooked

At rest, wings seemed to reach end of tail.

In flight, seen from side only, the wings looked quite long. But this look was fleeting and certainly not definitive. The flight feathers were clearly paler than rest of wing.

16. Voice: Did not hear.

17. Similar species (include how they are eliminated by your observations):

Lesser Black Hawk. Number of tail stripes and light flight feathers.

Greater Black Hawk. Pattern of tail stripes and light flight feathers.

Also, length of wing to tail proportions at rest.

18. Photographs (Was it photographed? By whom? Attached?):

Yes. Dan Huntington. No.

19. Previous experience with this species:

Only two or three occasions nine years ago.

20. Aids: List books, illustrations, birders, etc. used in identification

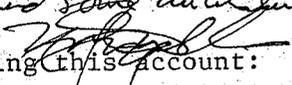
a) at time of observation; Nat'l Geographic Guide and Peterson Mexican Guide

b) after observation: Audubon Master Guide, Robbins

21. This description written from: _____ notes made during observation; _____ notes made after observation; memory.

22. Are you positive of your identification? 95%. If not, explain:

Width of white bands greater than dark bands (other than terminal band), but I believe that this was a young adult w/o complete moult and that tail still had some immature characteristics (white feathers on rump and crown support this view). Also did not see wings ^{shape} well in flight, though my impression was that they were long.

23. Signature of reporter: 

24. Date and time of writing this account:

12/24/84

12 noon

BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

REPORT FORM

This form is intended as a convenience in reporting observations of unusual birds. It may be used flexibly and need not be used at all. Leave blank any details not observed. Attach additional sheets if necessary. Please print or type. Attach drawings, photographs, etc.; include all photos if an obscurely marked species. When completed, mail to the Secretary of the LOS Bird Records Committee.

1. Common and scientific name: Zone-tailed Hawk (Buteo albonotatus)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g. 2ad. in breeding plumage): 1 adult
3. Locality: Louisiana: St. Bernard Parish: Violet
4. Date(s) when seen: 23 December 1984, and 24 December 1984
5. Times of day when seen: 23rd: from 430pm-500pm; 24th: dawn until ca 1000am
6. Reporting observer and address: Tristan J. Davis
569 Maxine Dr., Baton Rouge LA 70808
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird:
Many including Nancy Newfield, Dan Purrington, Sidney Geuthreaux, etc.
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird:
All those who identified the bird were with the observer.
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): On 23rd, it was dusk and light was not "optimum", but adequate.
On 24th, light got better and fog lifted as time passed until light excellent and bird viewed from all directions.
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition):
Zeiss 10x40 binocs (brand new); Various scopes up to 60x in excellent condition.
11. Distance to bird: 200-25ft.
12. Duration of observation: total of ca 3 hours of observation by observer alone.
13. Habitat (general and specific): Willow trees and various shrubs in narrow line of woods lining the Mississippi River between the river and the levee.
14. Behavior (flying, feeding, resting, etc.; include and stress any habits used in identification): First seen when flushed from a perch ca 15 ft up; flew to a willow tree about 300 ft away and ~~perched~~ perched. for the remainder of the observation on the 23rd, the bird was observed perched. When the bird was relocated the following day it was perched and remained so until flushed several times, when it would fly a few hundred feet and perch again. The bird would allow an approach of ca 20-25ft before it would fly.
15. Description (Include only what was actually seen, not what "should" have been seen. Include if possible: total length; body bulk; shape, bill, eye, and leg characteristics; color and pattern of plumage, etc. Stress field marks):
A slim Buteo about the size of a Red-tailed Hawk (slightly smaller). Body plumage jet black with no trace of white (except when the basal portions of the feathers were seen when, for example, the bird would turn its head). Tail fairly long, black at very base, white in the middle separated by a very thin and hard to see black band, wider black band distally, fringed white at tip. Eye dark. Bill black, cere yellow. Lores grayish when seen in the field (actually, gray caused by small, sparse white feathers on a black background). Feet yellow and longer than in a Red-tail; nails black. Bases of primaries whitish, fading slightly towards tips. No tail banding visible from above when tail was folded.
from below.

16. Voice: None given.

17. Similar species (include how they are eliminated by your observations):

-Common Black Hawk- originally identified as this species but Black Hawk has bright yellow facial skin, only a small patch of white at the bases of the outer primaries, very short tail and longer legs, and the white bands in the tail are easily seen from above when the tail is folded and the bird is perched.

-Greater Black Hawk- very similar to Common Black Hawk, and also has a white area on the rump.

18. Photographs (Was it photographed? By whom? Attached?): Photographs taken in the field ~~and~~ and in the hand by several photographers (myself not included). Photographers included Skip Newfield (in hand photos), and Dan Purrington(?) (in field photos).

19. Previous experience with this species: None; therefore, the misidentification as a Black Hawk seems understandable as the field guides do not cover pertinent field marks for Zone-tailed and the guides (as I have now learned) are extremely inadequate in regard to how to separate these two species in the field (see also Stallcup's review in October '88

20. Aids: List books, illustrations, birders, etc. used in identification Birding)

a) at time of observation; NONE until after field notes were taken (see attached copy of field notes)

b) after observation: All popular field guides to NA Birds, and also Peterson's Mexican Guide.

21. This description written from: XXXXX notes made during observation; _____ notes made after observation XX (part) memory.

22. Are you positive of your identification? YES. If not, explain:

23. Signature of reporter: 

24. Date and time of writing this account: 9 January 1985

NOTE: This bird was thought to be injured when observed on the 24th. Later that day, I was able to capture the bird by hand and brought it promptly to the Rehabilitation Center at Audubon Park Zoo in New Orleans. Once there, it was indeed found to be shot and they proceeded to "rehabilitate" it. According to them, it will soon be well enough to be released in the wild.

copy of original

Rather large warbler, dark cheek patch (below and behind eye), white wing bars, yellowish breast with indistinct streaks on sides, no tail spots

ZONE-TAILED HAWK (*Buteo albicollis*)

first I.d. as

Common Black Hawk (*Buteo gallicus anthracinus*)

all back. Buteo (no white at all)

- tail: black at very base, white in middle, black band distally, fringed white at tip.

- eye dark

- bill black (distal $\frac{1}{2}$), dull yellow (base) (Ebull) (Eccore)
grey at very base, and at lores.

- feet yellow, nails black; legs appear slightly brownish (red-tail)

- bases of primaries from below ~~white~~ whitish (seen in flight)

- sometimes ^{slightly} smaller + shorter + wider tail than red-tail

[bird seen sitting exc. for one short, low flight]

Observation time: 435-500pm

23 Dec '81

(OVER!)

Observers: Tristan J. Davis (founder)

Nancy L. Newfield

R. S. L.

Zone-tailed Hawk (Buteo albonotatus)

- (1st id'd as a Common Black Hawk)

Characters seen 24 Dec '84: [seen by T.J.D. + many other observers]

- the one wide white band towards tip of tail seen yesterday actually \geq white bands separated by a thin, hard-to-see black band.
- No banding visible from above when tail folded.
- lores appeared gray, but upon close examination, ~~it was~~ the lores ~~were~~ had black skin with small white feathers over it - this caused the gray-effect.
- bird seen in flight several times today and tail appeared longer than a red-tails and not wider, contrary to what I noticed yesterday while the bird was perched.

Bird[?] noticed to be tame and presumably injured. Bird was caught by hand by myself and was taken to Rehab. Center at Mid. Park Zoo, N.D., L.A. Shotgun pellets were found in the bird and a wing bone was broken.



Zone-tailed Hawk
Violet, La Dec. 24, 1984
photo - R.D. Purrington

PROCESSED BY
Kodak
JAN 85 A



Zone-tailed Hawk
Violet, La. Dec. 24, 1984
photo - R. D. Furrington

PROCESSED BY
Kodak
JAN 85 A

LOUISIANA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

Validation Form

Record Number 84-43 A,B,C Species Zone-tailed Hawk

Committee Member's Name Schulenberg Date of Review 4 June 1985

Circulation: First X; Second _____; Third _____.

Decision:

Accept X

Reject, origin questionable _____

Reject, Identification questionable _____

Comments (please print or type):

A remarkable record, but the species does tend to wander.
Where was I?

(Use reverse and add additional sheets, as necessary)

LOUISIANA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

Validation Form

Record Number 84-43 Species Zone-tailed Hawk

Committee Member's Name Van Remsen Date of Review 6 June 1985

Circulation: First ✓; Second ; Third .

Decision:

Accept ✓

Reject, origin questionable

Reject, Identification questionable

Comments (please print or type):

Specimen now at LSMZ - compares well with our series
of Zone-taileds

LOUISIANA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

Validation Form

Record Number 84-43A,B,C Species Zone-tailed Hawk Buteo albonotatus

Committee Member's Name Robert J. Newman Date of Review 8 August 1985

Circulation: First X; Second _____; Third _____.

Decision:

Accept _____ X
Reject, origin questionable _____
Reject, Identification questionable _____

Comments (please print or type):

A statement should have been made that the bird showed no evidence of ever having worn jesses. And should not the dossier be brought up to date by adding that the Museum has the specimen (as I presume it does) and by including a complete photograph?

LOUISIANA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

Validation Form

Record Number 84-43 Species Zone-tailed Hawk

Committee Member's Name H H Jeter Date of Review 24 Sept 1985

Circulation: First ; Second ; Third .

Decision:

- Accept
- Reject, origin questionable
- Reject, Identification questionable

Comments (please print or type):

LOUISIANA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

Validation Form

Record Number 84-43 Species Zone-tailed Hawk

Committee Member's Name Muth Date of Review 10/10/85

Circulation: First X; Second _____; Third _____.

Decision:

Accept _____
Reject, origin questionable X
Reject, Identification questionable _____

Comments (please print or type):

Looked like a Zone-tailed to me...

The possibility that this was an escape or falconer's bird seems remote, fide
Krista Morgan at ~~the~~ Bird Rehab and Tom Colson, a local falconer who handled the
bird and who knows all local falconers.

DPM

LOUISIANA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

Validation Form

Record Number 84-43 (A, B, C) Species Zone-tailed Hawk

Committee Member's Name B. Mac. Myers IV Date of Review 24 Oct. 1985

Circulation: First X; Second ; Third .

Decision:

Accept X
Reject, origin questionable
Reject, Identification questionable

Comments (please print or type):

Do we need a statement from zoo personnel
or others that the bird showed no signs of having
been kept in captivity?

Louisiana Ornithological Society

Bird Records Committee

Validation Form

Record Number 84-43 Species Zone-tailed Hawk
Committee Member's Name Purrinton Date of Review 11/18/85

Circulation: First ; Second ; Third .

Decision: Accept
Reject, origin questionable
Reject, identification questionable

Comments (please type or print):

Great photographer!