

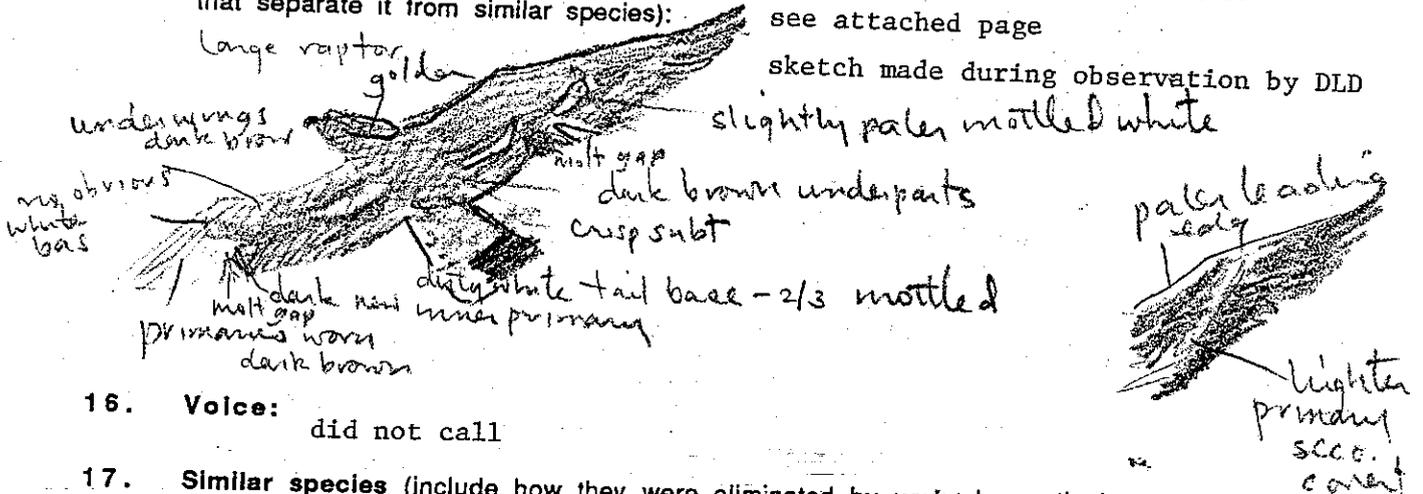
14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation):

see #13 above

15. Description (include only what was actually seen, not what "should" have been seen; include if possibly: total length/relative size compared to other familiar species, body bulk, shape, proportions, bill, eye, leg, and plumage characteristics. Stress features that separate it from similar species):

see attached page

sketch made during observation by DLD



16. Voice: did not call

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation):
plumage and size rule-out dark morph Buteos

Bald Eagle larger, much broader wings, more massive bill, and would have more brown/white mottling throughout plumage.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?):

1-2 distant photos taken, not developed as of this writing.

19. Previous experience with this species:

Extensive in W. USA, SWC's 3rd LA observation, DLD's 4th LA observation.

20. Identification aids: (list books, illustrations, other birders, etc. used in identification):

a. at time of observation: None

b. after observation: None

21. This description is written from: notes made during the observation (notes attached?); ___ notes made after the observation (date: ___); ___ memory.

22. Are you positive of your identification if not, explain:

23. Signature of reporter: Steven W. Cariff 5 January 1995
(date) (time)

Part 15 cont'd.

Large raptor, appearing almost twice the size (at least in wing area and total length) as flying Gr. White-fronted Geese (direct comparisons). All dark ^{backside} brown plumage except for dirty white basal 2/3 of tail (with some scattered dark mottling), lighter brown or dirty white patches on the greater upper and under secondary coverts, pale leading edge of underwing, and pale golden brown shaggy nape feathering. Wings proportionately longer and broader than buteos, but not as broad as Bald Eagle. Tail proportionately long and broad, almost wedge-shaped. Dark, hooked bill proportionately small for size of bird (e.g., not as long and massive as Bald Eagle). Details of cere, eye color, tarsi/feet feathering/color not distinguishable. The bird was in active or suspended wing molt, with an obvious gap in the outer secondaries or inner primaries, and with the outer primaries appearing paler and more worn than the inner pairs (see sketch made at time of observation).

