

IORC EVALUATION FORM

Record #: 2023-041

Name of bird form: Red-shouldered Hawk (extimus)

Committee member name: Steve Huggins

Date of review: 1/8/24

Circulation number: 1st

Vote: U-ID

Comments: The record is undoubtedly a Red-shouldered Hawk (Adult). Variability with the races of this species make identification to subspecies difficult and whilst interesting this bird is best left without subspecies level identification.

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Record #: 2023-041

Name of bird form: Red-shouldered Hawk (extimus)

Committee member name: Davida Kalina

Date of review: 22 December 2023

Circulation number: 1st

Vote: A-DE(1)

Comments:

The submitter's three poor-quality photos of the perched bird certainly show a very pale head and breast, consistent with the Florida extimus subspecies of Red-shouldered Hawk. I am unable to determine anything from the 4th photo of the bird in flight. Based on the 1st three photos, along with the submitter's documentation further explaining the plumage coloration and why the paleness is not due to leucism, I am voting to accept this record.

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Record #: 2023-041

Name of bird form: Red-shouldered Hawk (extimus)

Committee member name: Adam Sell

Date of review: 1/1/24

Circulation number: 1st

Vote: U-ID

Comments: The photos just aren't enough to safely rule out a pale *Lineatus*.

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Record #: 2023-041

Name of bird form: Red-shouldered Hawk (extimus)

Committee member name: Terry Walsh

Date of review: 1/4/24

Circulation number: 1st

Vote: U-ID

Comments:

This is an interesting record as the photos (unfortunately phone pics that are not very clear) do at first glance suggest a Florida-type Red-shouldered Hawk (pale red breast with a gray head) at first glance. However, the photos aren't clear enough to be sure of this sub-specific ID, especially as the entire bird can't be seen. It would certainly be a remarkable record as there seem to be only two eBird records (both unannotated) outside of Florida.

Some local *lineatus* Red-shouldered Hawks can look a little gray or pale on the head (like this one - <https://macaulaylibrary.org/asset/611730862>) so maybe this was one of these pale-headed individuals).

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Record #: 2023-041

Name of bird form: Red-shouldered Hawk (extimus)

Committee member name: Kyle Wiktor

Date of review: 1/8/2024

Circulation number: 1st

Vote: A-PE

Comments: Going at least by the records on eBird (which obviously do not include every record of every bird), this subspecies has never been recorded in Illinois. It does however look to be one based on the provided pictures.

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Record #: 2023-041

Name of bird form: Red-shouldered Hawk (*extimus*)

Committee member name: Dan Williams

Date of review: 12-21-2023

Circulation number: 1st

Vote: U-ID

Comments: I agree that the photos, although of low quality, show a Red-shouldered Hawk which could be *extimus*? If it is *extimus*, it may be the first record of that subspecies for the state. I am unable to find any prior record; the subspecies is not mentioned in Bohlen. However, I don't believe that the photos are of sufficient quality to determine that subspecies.

The 3 photos showing the pale gray head are consistent for *extimus*. I checked photos of *extimus* on eBird and other sources. The breasts of the birds in the eBird photos are paler than the bird here, although, depending on photo quality, the amount of orange-rufous seems to vary.

Without photos of better detail, I am unable to accept.

IORC EVALUATION FORM

Record #: 2023-041

Name of bird form: Red-shouldered Hawk (*extimus*)

Committee member name: Geoffrey A. Williamson

Date of review: 16 December 2023

Circulation number: 1st

Vote: U-ID

Comments:

This is an intriguing record. I am bothered, however, by the paleness of the wing that shows in Photo #1. This seems atypical for *extimus*, judging by the collection of photographs in the Macaulay Library for the subspecies and from the plates in, say, Clark and Wheeler (2001). That said, I will add that I do not have a good grasp of what the range of variation in the appearance of *extimus* is. Nonetheless, the overall very pale appearance of the bird in this record makes me uncertain whether a pigment impaired member of the regularly occurring form can be excluded here. We do not have a comprehensive description of the entire bird, nor is one possible from the submitted photos.

I will take the conservative position to refrain from acceptance without clearer evidence.

Literature Cited

Clark, W.S. and B.K. Wheeler. 2001. A Field Guide to Hawks of North America, 2nd edition. Houghton Mifflin.