

IOS IORC <iorcommittee@gmail.com>

Possible "extimus" ssp RSHA sighted in Illinois

1 message

Stacia Novy < >
To: IORC <iorcommittee@gmail.com>

Sat, Aug 5, 2023 at 12:11 PM

Dear IOS and Geoff Williamson,

I saw a very pale morph, adult red-shouldered hawk perched at Pyramid State Park, IL yesterday. See pics. (taken with my iPhone out the car window, so sorry for the unprofessional look). The pics show the description identified below. I included a shot of the raptor flying away so you can see the translucent "crescent" on the wing of a RSHA.

It is not a leucistic bird, as the pale coloration occurs throughout the body and makes the overall color appear "diluted". The head is whitish-gray, the wings have a whitish background color with black markings, and the chest is a light pinkish/cinnamon color. The red "shoulder" is a light reddish color too.

This morph is identical to the south Florida subspecies "extimus". I had my field guide, showing the various subspecies of red-shouldered hawks, and compared images on the spot. I don't know if avian subspecies are noteworthy for the records committee, but just thought to pass along the photos and info. Let me know what you think?

Thanks, Stacia Novy

4 attachments



RSHA1 (2).jpg 416K



RSHA2 (2).jpg 88K



RSHA4 (2).jpg 111K



RSHA5 (2).jpg 115K