

Both underneath and upper wing surfaces were visible as the bird circled, as was the pronounced bend in the heavy wings. One observer commented at that point that the bird was flying like a hawk, but wasn't. The bird, which had been under observation for at least five minutes, had now set its wings and was gliding across Braddock Bay toward the West Spit.

This gave us a chance to check a bird book since, up to this time, we had not taken our glasses off the bird. All the above points of identification were noted previous to consulting the books. A check of both Peterson and Robbins confirmed Warren Lloyd's and Mary Ann Sunderlin's suspicions that this was a Skua. (See Peterson, "A Field Guide to the Birds," pp 7 and 109; Robbins, "A Guide to Field Identification, Birds of North America," p. 130; Shackleton and Stokes, "Birds of the Atlantic Ocean," pp 97 and 99.)

The only bird in the sky at the time we sighted the Skua was a tree swallow, at which the Skua made a rather half-hearted pass. The size comparison was of a swallow and a black-backed gull. At no time did the wings have the slimmer, more streamlined appearance of the Pomarine Jaeger which we sighted later that afternoon at Manitou.

Although we have never seen a Skua before and bearing in mind that the bird has only been seen once or twice previously in this region, we nevertheless believe this bird seen at Hawk Lookout to be a Skua. Our observations were made through 10x50 Bushnell and 7x35 Fuji binoculars. We have consulted a number of authorities including the above-mentioned sources as well as Pough's "Audubon Guides" and Bruun and Singer's "Birds of Europe", Reilly's "Audubon Handbook of American Birds," and all sources seem to confirm our feelings.

The bird was also seen at Hawk Lookout by Lawrence Littlefield and Marguerite Berry.

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Observations on an Adult Black-legged Kittiwake on Lake Ontario near Oswego, New York: On December 1, 1973 we were observing gulls from a cliff overlooking Lake Ontario about three quarters of a mile east of the city of Oswego. A brisk wind estimated at 25 miles per hour was blowing off the Lake, apparently creating favorable updrafts along the face of the cliff since a large number of gulls were soaring before us. While scanning these birds in hopes of finding a Glaucous or Iceland Gull, a bird with a light gray band on the back of its neck was spotted about thirty yards away at eye level. Careful scrutiny of the bird with 8x40 and 7x35 binoculars indicated that it had a solid black triangle on the tip, gray mantle and a completely white tail. Tail shape was not noted but the bird's small size and slender wings relative to the Ring-billed and Herring Gulls soaring near it were noted. The bird was immediately called to the attention of the members of the Cayuga Bird Club, many of whom obtained a satisfactory view of the bird although it was by this time fifty to seventy five yards away. This report is believed to constitute the first sight record of an adult Black-legged Kittiwake on Lake Ontario although immatures of this species are rare but regular in occurrence in the area and a previous adult specimen record exists.

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Common Crows as Commensals of Common Mergansers: On 25 July 1973 I saw 13 Common Mergansers (*Mergus merganser*) feeding together on the Beaverkill River near East Branch, Delaware County, New York. Rushing upstream in short spurts against the current, they drove their quarry into the shallow pools