

Records Committee, Iowa Ornithologists' Union

Printed: 11/22/00

Pacific Loon

11 Oct 1996

Rathbun Reservoir, Appanoose Co., IA

Ray Cummins

IBL 67:19, 81

Record Number: 96-40

Classification: A-D

DOCUMENTATION

Ray Cummins, 609 S. Main St., Centerville 52544

REFERENCES

Field Reports: IBL 67:19

Records Committee: IBL 67:81

VOTE: 7 A-D

A-D, Size, bill, and pattern of dark and light seen at close range. Basic.

Species: Pacific Loon (winter)

Number: 1

Location: Rathbun dam, Appanoose Co.

Observer: Ray Cummins

Others before/with/after: with Bill Cummings

Date: 10/11/96      Time bird seen: 8:30am to 8:40am

Habitant: Openwater

Circumstances: Sighted as I drove across the dam. I thought this was going to be a early Common Loon, but when I scoped it I immediately realized it was a Pacific Loon.

Description: The loon had a very defined white face and foreneck. The crown and nape were grayish and lighter than the darker back. The bill was straight and smaller than what I would have judged a Common's to be. The eye was entirely within the dark area of the crown. The sides of the neck were separated from white and gray by vertical black line. The bird had a faint, but visible dark strap running across the neck at the base of the chin.

Description of voice: n/heard

Similarly appearing species: Common and Red-throated both have a dark nape than back and have white above the eye.

Distance: 75 to 150 yds

Optical equipment: 8x40 binoculars & a Kowa 20x to 60x spotting scope.

Light: OK

Previous experience with species: I have seen several in Iowa.

Anyone have any reservations: no.

Books and references: none.

Time of field notes: none.

Final typing: 12/1/96.

Signature:  Address: 609 S. Main Street, Centerville, IA 52544.

Date: 12/1/96