

Pacific Loon
6 Dec 1986
Saylorville Res., Polk Co., IA
*Francis Moore
IBL 57:13, 77

Record Number: 86-19
Classification: A-D

DOCUMENTATION

Francis L. Moore

REFERENCES

Field Reports: IBL 57:13
Records Committee: IBL 57:77

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Tom Kent to Records Committee, 13 Sep 1993

LETTER AND COMMENT

Ronald E. Goetz to Thomas H. Kent, 1 Apr 1988 [see 86-07]

VOTE: 6-III, 1-abstain

III, Size comparison, dark line on neck, necklace, and bill
add up to a good description.

III, no comment, ... [should be abstain/thk]

III, Again the chin strap and tri-colored neck clinch the ID.

III, Should Pacific Loon records 11/22 and 11/30 be combined
with this?

III, Excellent documentation.

REVOTE (1993): 6 A-D, 1 NA

A-D, Leave as separate bird. Ten days and a lake as long as
Saylorville makes for a hard decision to change.

A-D, I believe this to be the same bird as 86-09.

NA, In view of the outside review, this record should be
rejected. I agree with Goetz's speculation that there may have
been only one bird seen under different conditions.

A-D, Good documentation but I would lump with 86-08. Sounds
like the same bird.

A-D, 86-08, 09, 19 same bird.

13 September 1993

To: IOU Records Committee
From: Tom Kent
Re: Request for reconsideration of record

Records: 86-19 Pacific Loon (86-08, 86-09)

Reason for request: Outside review not previously considered by committee.

Comment: Ron Goetz reviewed this record in the process of reviewing Midwest records of Red-throated and Pacific loons. His opinion differs from the previous action of the committee, who had not seen his review. He only considers the first record acceptable, but would lump the three records.

What species? PACIFIC LOON How many? 1 basic plumage

Location? Near Rock rip-rap off shore from Cherry Glen, Saylorville Res., Polk Co.

Type of habitat? Open water near cove

When? date(s): 6 December 1986 time: 11:45 a.m. to 12:05 p.m.

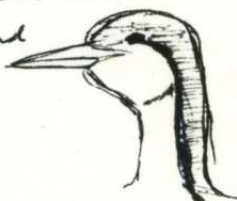
Who? your name and address: Francis L. Moore, 336 Fairfield St., Waterloo, IA 50703

others with you: None

others before or after you: _____

Describe the bird(s) including only what you observed. Include size, shape, details of all parts (bill, eye, head, neck, back, wing, tail, throat, breast, belly, under tail, legs, feet). Also mention voice and behavior.

I was scoping ducks from the end of the road at the Cherry Glen Recreation Area on Saylorville Reservoir. A loon came swimming around the point in front of the access road at this Rec. Area. At first I thought it was just another Common Loon by its shape and swimming attitude. Then another loon came swimming around the point and came within about 5 feet of the first loon. This second loon was much larger and a definite Common Loon in basic plumage. The smaller loon had about the same colored back and wings, ^{dark gray} maybe a slight bit darker than the Common. The back of the neck, nape and top of the head was lighter ^{paler gray} in this smaller bird. On the larger Common Loon the back of the neck, nape and top of head was darker than the back. The front of the neck, throat, chin and cheek was a clear bright white except a small thin necklace on the throat. The back of the neck and the front of the neck was separated by a darker line coming from the back of the eye and curving down the neck to the front of where the wing began (see drawing). The Common Loon did not have this. The bill was dark gray to blackish and was straight and not heavy like the Common Loon. The eye looked black. No voice was heard.



Similar species and how eliminated: Red-throated and Common loon does not have tri-toned neck pattern as this bird had. Red-throated also has slightly upturned bill, this bird did not.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? No

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment:

Bright overcast, good viewing from approx. 40-50 yards using 10x40 binoculars and 20x60 scope.

Previous experience with species and similar ones: Have seen many Arctic/Pacific Loons in East coast during migration. Have lots of experience with Common Loon.

References and persons consulted before writing description: None

How long before field notes made? Time of sighting this form completed? 2 days

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