

REQUEST FOR MORE INFORMATION

To: Berg Engebretsen

From: Tom Kent, Field Reports Editor, Iowa Bird Life, 211 Richards St., Iowa City, IA 52246

Sometimes I am on the fence as to whether to include a bird sighting in the report or not, usually because I don't have enough information or the sighting is so unusual that I would like to check on it. I have a choice of making a decision or seeking more information. This form is an attempt to do the latter.

I would appreciate it if you would return this form in the enclosed self-addressed stamped envelope as soon as possible so that I can make alterations in the report before it is published. Thanks.

Record: Horned Grebe, 13 Aug¹⁹⁹⁵, Terra L.

Significance: record earliest

Information requested:

confirm date date is correct

how well seen (viewing time, distance, view, other details) Bird was present for many weeks, my best record was 10/21, I believe Denny Thompson saw it in October,
 description of bird (as much as you can honestly remember) Terra is not large, so it was seen at variable distances from 50 to 100 yds.

voice (heard?, what was heard?)

can other observers also provide details? Denny has some details of his sighting in October, but that probably wouldn't help for an August sighting. When first seen the bird was small & a small bill, either a Horned or Eared. The bill appeared slightly longer than the perhaps more likely Eared on that date. The best mark was a tinge of orangish still present on the flanks, but also faintly across the upper breast/lower neck. The head pattern was a bit more puzzling when first seen with just a faint suggestion of "horns", but white beneath the chin & cheek and down onto upper neck. The face pattern was sort of muddly, not clearly Eared nor Horned.

As the weeks passed, the bird continued to molt into a more typical Horned Grebe face^{neck} pattern, losing the "muddly" cheek pattern & becoming more clear white on chin - cheek - neck.

There have been several mid-August Iowa reports, tho I don't know how well documented. This bird did have a somewhat muddled pattern and I would have been less certain, if it had not stayed on Terra for 2 months or so, (over)

although, I suppose there is no way to prove it was the same
kind.

REQUEST FOR MORE INFORMATION

To: Ray Engstrom

From: Tom Koen, Bird Report Editor, Iowa Bird Club, Iowa City, IA 52242

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Record: Harold Cooper, 13 Aug 1963, Turner Co.

Sighting location: Turner Co., Iowa

Information requested:

✓ confirm date & location

✓ how well seen (flying time, distance, view, other details)

✓ description of bird (as much as you can possibly remember)

✓ voice (chant, what was heard)

✓ are other observers also providing details?

✓ I don't know if you are a member of the Iowa Bird Club, but I would like to see you at the next meeting, as it would be a good opportunity for you to see the club members.

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