

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? Trumpeter Swan How many? 2Location? Big marsh — (Butler County)Type of habitat? Huge marshy areaWhen? date(s): March 22, 1997 ^{appr.} time: 4:30 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.Who? your name and address: Mark Proescholdt, Box 65, Liscomb, Iowa 50148others with you: Beth Proescholdt, Steve Dinsmore

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.

We spotted an adult and an immature swan together. They were unmarked. They had no neck collars, no wing tags, and the adult was upside down feeding and had no bands on its legs that were dangling in the air. The immature was quite grayish on its neck, head, and overall. Both were large Swans. The adult's black bill tapered in a triangle to the eye. And the bill did not seem concave but straight.

Similar species and how eliminated: A Tundra Swan immature is much whiter by late winter than immature trumpeters. Tundra Swans have slightly concave bills and the black of the bills do not go completely to the eye in a triangle.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? NO

If yes, explain: _____

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

Cloudy, good viewing, distance estimated at 100 yards, 8X30 binocs and Steve's KOWA scope.

Previous experience with species and similar ones:

Have seen quite a few trumpeter and Tundra Swans.

References and persons consulted before writing description:

National Geographic guide

How long before field notes made? (were not made) this form completed? April 6, 1997