

BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF  
AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD

1. Species Red-necked Grebe 2. Number 1
3. Location Little Wall Lake - south of Jewell, Iowa
4. Date: April 14, 1984 5. Time Bird Seen: 8:15 A.M. to 8:45 A.M.
6. Description of size, shape and color-pattern (describe in great detail all parts of the plumage, and beak and feet coloration, in addition, to the diagnostic characteristics, but include only what actually was seen in the field):
1. Large grebe (about as big as a coigeon or godswall duck)
  2. Fairly long heavy neck.
  3. Long pointed yellow bill
  4. Top of head, back of neck + back were dark (grayish)
  5. Sides of face and under chin was white (up to eye)
  6. Front of neck + breast was reddish
  7. A slight crest could be seen on top of head
7. Description of voice, if heard: NOT HEARD
8. Description of behavior: Swimming + diving -
9. Habitat - general: Fairly small lake  
specific: Bird was out towards middle of lake
10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7 & 8. Explain:  
Much too big for horned or eared grebe and too stocky + wrong color for western.
11. Distance (how measured)? 100-150 yd. 12. Optical equipment: 25X scope
13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you):  
Cloudy - light rain
14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species:  
I have seen red-necked once before.
15. Other observers: Francis Moore and many others
16. Did the others agree with your identification? Yes
17. Other observers who independently identified this bird: Many
18. Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description:  
None
19. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description? 1 1/2 months
- Signature: Robert K. Myers Address: 1236 Sylvan Ave
- Date: May 28, 1984 City, State: Waters, Iowa