

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? Cattle Egret How many? 2Location? Forney's LakeType of habitat? Lake and Marsh AreaWhen? date(s): 11-20-82 time: 4:20 pm to 4:25 pmWho? your name and address: Kraig Downs 3809 Toronto, Amesothers with you: Gary Downsothers before or after you: unknown

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.

The bird was a medium to small sized bird. It appeared to be approximately 18 in. long (body only). The wingspan looked as if it were about 34 inches. The bird flew with its wings "cupped up" and its ~~head~~ neck "kinked" back. The bird's body was entirely white. The ~~bill~~ bill was a distinct orange. Its legs hung straight out the back and were definite yellow. ~~One~~ One of them made a noise, it was a "squawk". These two birds lured into out snow geese decoys when we were hunting. Apparently the decoys looked like other of their kind.

Similar species and how eliminated:

Great Egret and Snowy Egret. The size and that there had been 125-150 Cattle Egret on Forney's Earlier that season

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? NO

If yes, explain: _____

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

Bright and clear weather, perfect: distance about 20 ft. measured by estimation; no optical equipment

Previous experience with species and similar ones:

Mainly viewed in books, have watched Great Egret

References and persons consulted before writing description:

Jim Dinsmore and Steve Dinsmore

How long before field notes made? _____ this form completed? 10 days

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