

What species? ROSS' GOOSE How many? 2

Location? NORTHERN LOUISA COUNTY - 1 MILE WEST OF CONE MARSH

Type of habitat? FARM FIELD - CORN STUBBLE

When? date(s): 3/15/90 time: 4:00 to 4:20 PM

Who? your name and address: JIM FULLER, 6 LONGVIEW KNOLL, Rte. IOWA CITY

others with you: _____

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.

TWO BIRDS WERE SEEN IN A FLOCK OF APPROXIMATELY 150 SNOW GESE. BOTH BIRDS WERE WHITE MORPH, AND ONE WAS ONLY ABOUT ONE-HALF THE SIZE OF THE SNOWS; THE OTHER WAS A LITTLE LARGER, BUT NO MORE THAN 2/3 THE SIZE OF THE SNOWS. IN ADDITION TO THE SMALLER GENERAL SIZE, THEY HAD DEFINITELY SHORTER NECKS AND SMALLER, STUBBIER BILLS. NEITHER BIRD HAD A "GRN PATCH" ASSOCIATED WITH THEIR BILL, BUT BOTH HAD A GRAYISH BLUE AREA AT THE BASE OF THE BILL. LEGS WERE PINK AND EYE DARK. THEY WERE SEEN WELL WALKING AND FEEDING IN THE CORN STUBBLE AT ABOUT 200 YARDS.

Similar species and how eliminated: SNOW GOOSE IS LARGER WITH LARGER HEAD AND NECK AND BILL, AND HAS GRN PATCH.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? NO

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment: OVERCAST - LOOKING STRAIGHT NORTH WITH SWIFT BINOCLE 8.5x44 AND TS4 KOWA SCOPE

Previous experience with species and similar ones: SEEN SEVERAL TIMES PREVIOUSLY

References and persons consulted before writing description: NONE

How long before field notes made? IMMEDIATE this form completed? 27 HOURS

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