

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? Mute Swan How many? 1 AdLocation? Miss. River between I80 + Le Clair

Type of habitat? _____

When? date(s): 21 Feb 1982 time: 820 to 830 AMWho? your name and address: Rick Hollis 3351 Lower W Branch Rd Iowa Cityothers with you: Tom Kent, Carl Bendorfothers before or after you: none that I know

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.

1. Large White Swan
2. Held 2°s fluffed over back
- 3 Neck ~~was~~ at times assumed a graceful S shape as opposed to the more erect posture of Whistlers.
The place where the body + neck join was very low - almost in the water.
4. There was an obvious knob at the base of the bill.
5. No voice was heard + the bird was swimming in mid river for the entire time ~~that~~ we observed ^(#2-4) it.

Similar species and how eliminated: The points above eliminate both the Whistling + Trumpeter Swans

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? No

If yes, explain:

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

clear, bird was toward sun but at est 30° angle from sun,
1/4 - 1/2 mile (est), 7x binoc + spotting scopes 20x and 20-45x

Previous experience with species and similar ones: RH has seen many Whistling Swans on Chesapeake Bay

References and persons consulted before writing description: Refs: Peterson + Robbins et al
Not consulted before field notes writtenHow long before field notes made? < 5' this form completed? 12 hr

MAIL TO: T. H. Kent, Field Reports Editor, 211 Richards Street, Iowa City IA 52240