

BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF
AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD

1. Species Red-Necked Grebe (Holboell's) 2. Number One
3. Location Lower Pine Lake, Eldora, Hardin County
4. Date: September 20, 1982 5. Time Bird Seen: 12:15PM to 12:45 PM

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):

I observed the bird swimming in the lake, half again the size of a pair of Eared Grebe that I had been watching. Bird body was the shape of a loon, but the neck was much more erect, thinner and taller. The over all color was grayish, there was not a white crescent on the side of the face, so judged it to be an immature. The bill was heavy, long and yellow in color. The grayish color seemed to be slightly darker on the top of the head. The bird never flew so did not see the feet.

7. Description of voice, if heard: Did not hear any voice.

8. Description of behavior: Dove repeatedly from surface of water.

9. Habitat - general: Lower Pine Lake is small, surrounded by trees, marshy habitat in the upper end of the lake. Small island in the middle.
specific: Bird was observed between the island and the marshy area.

10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7 & 8. Explain:

Loon, because of the size of the neck and head in comparison to the rest of there body. They have larger body. Western Grebe, has thinner bill.

11. Distance (how measured)? Eye, approx. 30 to 50 yards. 12. Optical equipment: 10 X 50 Bin.

13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you):
Sunny and clear. during noon hour so sun was over head.

14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species:
My first experience with this species of Red-Knecked Grebe, have observed Eared, Pied-billed and least Grebe on numerous occasions. Also common loon.

15. Other observers: None

16. Did the others agree with your identification?

17. Other observers who independently identified this bird:

18. Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description:
Golden Guide to Birds of North America,
Peterson Field Guide to the Birds East of the Rockies

19. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description?
Wrote in my own log the very same day, this report was written approx. 2 months later.

Signature: Phyllis J Harris Address: Union

Date: 11-30-82 City, State: Iowa