

BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD.

1. Species Western Grebe 2. Number: 1

3. Location Saylorville Lake

4. Date: 10/26/84 5. Time Bird seen: 7⁴⁰ A.M to 7⁵⁰

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): at foot of dam, sun-up, diving, in a flock of coots. thin neck, marked black/white contrast of head and neck, pale yellow bill seen (thin). Pumping action of neck. Characteristic humped head shape. Obviously larger than nearby pied-bills. Same area where horned grebes commonly seen this time of year or later.

7. Description of voice, if heard: —

8. Description of behavior: diving, in flock of coots

9. Habitat - general: lake, at dam
specific:

10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7 & 8, Explain: too small, slender for loon species
Head, bill, neck, characteristic of this species

11. Distance (how measured)? ? 50 yds (from top to base of dam) 12. Optical equipment: 7x50

13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you): sun up, clear

14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species: several western trips

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: Peterson

19. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description? 12 hours

Bery Engelbrecht
Signature

Address: 6492 James Francis Pl-

Date: 10/26/84

City, State: Johnston, IA 50131