

BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF  
AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD

1. Species Red-necked Grebe 2. Number One
3. Location Jolly Roger recreation area - Coralville Reservoir
4. Date: Oct 30, 1979 5. Time Bird Seen: ~1330 hrs to ~1345 hrs.
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):
- A Large grebe was discovered close to the near shore beneath a bluff at Jolly Roger on which this observer was standing. Size was determined by comparison with coots who were swimming nearby. The grebe, was equal to or longer in length than the coots. The bird had a grey back & neck, a light front, & a dark cap. The bill was longer, dark at the tip but yellow to the rear. As bird swam away, it flew a short distance, a white patch was observed on rear of wing.
7. Description of voice, if heard: none.
8. Description of behavior: nervous, not diving,
9. Habitat - general: Large body of water  
specific:
10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7 & 8. Explain:  
horned grebe = size, bill, white patch.
11. Distance (how measured)? 1/4 mi of 20x scope field filled by bird
12. Optical equipment: 20x scope
13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you):  
Cloudless, sun behind observer
14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species:  
Connecticut shore - many sightings
15. Other observers: none; a red-necked grebe was observed 2 days earlier in the same area by T. West
16. Did the others agree with your identification?
17. Other observers who independently identified this bird:  
T. West.
18. Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description:
19. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description? 1 day
- Signature: Frank Shires Address: 201 Woodruff
- Date: 10/31/79 City, State: IC, IA 52242