

DOCUMENTATION FORM
For Extraordinary Bird Sightings in Iowa

What species? Ross Goose How many? 2

Location? Cone M., Louisa Co., IA

Type of Habitat? marsh

When? date(s): 11 March 1990 time: 2¹⁵ to 2³⁰ pm

Who? your name and address: Thomas H. Kent, 211 Richards St, Iowa City, IA 52246

Others with you: none

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, undertail, legs, feet). Also mention voice and behavior.

One bird about half size of largest snow goose, 2/3 size of smallest. Other bird slightly larger, but still distinctly smaller than all snow geese. Both birds were all white except for bill and primaries (most of the snows were smudgy white). Short necks, small, rounded head. Bills small and triangular. Culmen slightly curved with steep forehead. Both birds seen in profile with snows showing very small short bills. Bill orange but dark at base. No gull mark (seen on snows).

Similar species; how eliminated: Snow Goose - see above

Did any one disagree or have reservations about the identification? _____
If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), optical equipment.
Cloudy. 250 yards (guess). 20x scope and Quarter.

Previous experience with species and similar ones: have seen many, but first for Louisa Co.

References and persons consulted before writing description: none

How long before field notes made? _____ this form completed? 1 hour

Send completed form to Field Reports or CBC editor (address on back cover of Iowa Bird Life).