

Unusual Bird Report Form for Christmas Bird Counts

CBC Name (not bird club name): Spirit Lake CBC Date: 12 Dec. 98

Species (include number, age, sex etc. as appropriate): 9 Trumpeter Swan

Observer: Gary Brange & Lee Schoenewe Other observers who saw bird: many other birders in area over past weeks

Description (Describe size, color and pattern above and below, head, bill, tail, wings etc. as needed. Use this space for a drawing if helpful. Include photos if available.):

8 of 9 were Trumpeters (free flying) from DNR Kettleon Hogback Project -- all collared w/ recognized tag numbers. Ninth bird wearing collar from different Iowa location. One pair is from 1997 release, migrated south in 97 and returned in Spring of 98. Can these be considered wild, migratory now, for purpose of this count?

Sounds made, if any:

Conditions of observation (Time of day, weather, duration of observation, distance to bird, optics used, etc.):

60x Scope - Sunny, rear light, etc.

Behavior and Habitat (What was the bird doing while you watched it? What habitat was it in?):

Similar Species (What similar species might be in your area in winter? How did you eliminate them from consideration?):

Tundra Swan