

[17] From: Kniyo@aol.com at NBS-Internet-Gateway 1/2/99 8:01PM (1745 bytes: 9786
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To: Steve Dinsmore at NBS-MESC

Subject: Trumpeter Swan Documentation

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Text item 1: Text Item

Steve,

I think I am doing this for the Ames CBC, right? I have seen these birds so many times that I have to check my notes to remember which day was which picture in my mind. So, I'll just use the NAS format for CBCs.

Dec. 19, 1998, Ames CBC
3 Trumpeter Swans
Kay Niyo, Wolf Oesterreich

Description: Three large mature, white swans, two with green neck bands with numbers 3F6 and 3F9. Forehead and large heavy bill a straight line; no concavity of bill. Bill black with continuing black skin to corner of eye and forming a V on the forehead. First sighted Dec. 13, 1998. Two swans with neck bands determined to have been released at Bjorkboda Marsh in summer of 1998.

No sounds.

Seen 8:30 a.m. and 2 other times during day. Using 10 X 42 Leica binoculars and Kowa spotting scope with 25-60 zoom. About 150 feet away from birds swimming together in Hallett's Quarry, north of Ames.

Eliminated Tundra Swan as possibility by shape of head and bill. Tundra swan would have a more rounded head with a black bill that is slightly concave. Black facial skin does not form V on forehead of Tundra.

Will that do? Let me know if you need more.

There was an interesting program yesterday on NPR Science Friday with the Audubon person in charge of CBCs and a compiler from San Francisco. Had someone from the Smithsonian too. They explained the CBCs and its history to the audience. Took call-in questions, etc. Did a pretty good job of explaining it for the public.

See ya!

Kay