

FIELD REPORT FORM for submitting seasonal observation of Iowa birds

Season: Winter Year: '81-'82 Name and address: Ruth Phipps
310 University
Shenandoah, Iowa 51601

Other observers (name, city):

Morie Spear Shenandoah
Don Prieb " "
Betty Walter, " "

Use initials of obsv. on species line

SPECIES	NO.	DATE	LOCATION	COMMENT *	OTHER OBSERV.
✓ Canada Goose	23	2-26-82	No. of Farragut		Morie Spear
✓ Snow Geese				Several thousand on water and as many in air with Snows. They were in front of block. Identified by size & look.	M.S.
✓ Ross' Geese	3				
✓ Gadwall	1				
✓ Redhead	3				M.S.
✓ Canvasback	1				M.S.
✓ Com. Goldeneye	3			Morie Spear saw them	
No. Harrier	1	1-5-82	# 29		
Red-tailed Hawk	1	"	"		
✓ Red-br. Nuthatch	1	12-1-81	Shen. Prince Cr.	He's fed at bird feeder all winter	
✓ Short-eared Owl	1	12-27-81	Co. Park		Betty Walters
✓ Am Robin	1000	1-1-82	Highway # 29	Don Prieb estimated No. he saw feeding in trees & shrubs with berries	
✓ Horned Lark	400	1-5-82	Highway # 59 + # 34	large flocks along roads	
✓ Golden Cr. Kinglet	121 108	12-10-81	my backyard		
	121 158	12-15-81			
✓ Evening Grosbeak	2	12-27-81	" "		
✓ Purple Finch	4	Jan + Feb 1982	" "	Have had a few - no more than 4 at one time	
✓ Com. Redpoll	2	2-7-82	" "		
Pine Siskin		Dec, Jan, Feb	" "	A few have come to my feeders all winter	
✓ Harris' Sparrow	6	12-27-81	Riverton	Morie Spear has banded a few in her backyard feeder	
✓ White-cr. "	10	12-27-81	"		Betty Walters

BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD.

1. Species Less' Goose 2. Number: Three
3. Location North of Farragut, Fremont Co., Iowa
4. Date: Feb 26 1982 5. Time Bird seen: 1:00 PM to 1:15 PM

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):

Smaller than the Snow Goose, similar in shape and color to the Snow Goose. The beak was shorter and lacked the dark streak or "grim mark" of the Snow Goose. Did not see the legs or feet since the birds were in water.

7. Description of voice, if heard: —

8. Description of behavior: —

9. Habitat - general:
specific: Flooded farmland

10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7 & 8, Explain:

Snow Goose - The Less' Geese were surrounded ^{on 3 sides} by snow, and the size was noticed. The stubby beaks were easily seen.

11. Distance (how measured)? 200 to 300 feet, Estimated 12. Optical equipment: binoc s
By my husband, Wayne.

3. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you): sun Behind me
and shining on the bird. Bright light + cloudless sky

4. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species: saw one south
of Tucson Ariz. - saw a flock of 400 at Salton Sea, Calif.

5. Other observers: none

6. Did the others agree with your identification?

7. Other observers who independently identified this bird:

8. Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description:

9. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description? Five hours

Signature Ruth O. Phipps Address: 310 University

Date: Feb 26 1982 City, State: Shenandoah Iowa



FROM THE DESK OF

2-27-82

RUTH PHIPPS

Marie Spear, Betty Walter,
Bucky Bernthal and I returned
to the pond of water N. of Faragut
and saw:

8 C. Goldeneye

2 Bald Eagle 1 m + 1
im.

Ruth