

Barrow's Goldeneye

28 Nov 1994

Tera L., Johnston, Polk Co., IA

Reid and Pam Allen

P-0434, IBL 65:12, 81

Record Number: 94-46

Classification: A-P

DOCUMENTATION

Reid and Pam Allen, 1601 Pleasant St., West Des Moines 50265 [6/26/95*]

PHOTOGRAPH

Reid Allen, P-0434

REFERENCES

Field Reports: IBL 65:12

Records Committee: IBL 65:81

VOTE: 7 A-P

A-P, Excellent photo vs Common Goldeneye; "forehead" shape clearly diagnostic.



Barrow's Goldeneye
Johnston, Polk Co., IA P-0434
28 Nov 1994 Reid Allen

94-46

< X003 19:02 28N1N-114U 3M

DOCUMENTATION

94-46

SPECIES: **Barrow's Goldeneye** (*Bucephala islandica*)

HOW MANY: 1

LOCATION: Tera Lake, IPTV Pond, Johnston, Polk County, Iowa

HABITAT: Enclosed freshwater pond.

DATE: 28 November, 1994

TIME & LENGTH OF OBSERVATION: 12:15 - 12:20 p.m.

FIRST OBSERVATION MADE BY: Jerry Jancik on the day before

DOCUMENTER'S NAME & ADDRESS: Reid & Pam Allen, 1601 Pleasant Street, West Des Moines, IA 50265

OTHERS WHO SAW BIRD: Eloise and Eugene Armstrong; Maridel Jackson

DESCRIPTION OF BIRD: The head shape was the most noticeable characteristic which differentiated the Barrow's Goldeneye from the Common Goldeneyes. The forehead of the Barrow's Goldeneye was very steep and almost straight up and down, compared to the Common Goldeneye whose forehead was gently sloped from the top of the bill to the rounded head. The Barrow's Goldeneye crescent white patch on either side of the cheek, below the eye, was variable on either side of the face, although it was very definitely a crescent-shaped white patch, as opposed to the rounded white patch on the Common Goldeneyes. The bill on the Barrow's was short and stubby, appearing black. The eye was a bright golden yellow. The head was black, with a slight very dark purplish cast to it. The breast and sides were white, with a white collar extending around the neck. The sides of the wings looked like a series of white "port holes" or "windows" on each side of the bird and it looked as if there was a black hook extending down the side of the bird at the front end of the wing into the breast area. The back and tail were black, and the black on the sides of the body seemed to extend past the flank area toward the front of the bird. The tail was short and the whole body of the duck sloped down to the water. The Barrow's seemed about the same size as the Common Goldeneyes.

SIMILAR SPECIES AND HOW ELIMINATED: Common Goldeneye eliminated because of head shape, wing and side markings, facial pattern.

VIEWING CONDITIONS: Clear day, but very windy.

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WITH SPECIES: Viewed at DeSoto Bend NWR in Iowa a few years ago.

EQUIPMENT: Kowa TSN-4 spotting scope; Bushnell 8x36 Custom Binoculars. Minolta X-700 camera.

REFERENCES CONSULTED: FIELD GUIDE TO THE BIRDS OF NORTH AMERICA, National Geographic Society, Second Edition, 1987.

HOW LONG BEFORE FIELD NOTES MADE: Immediately upon leaving sighting.

HOW LONG BEFORE THIS FORM COMPLETED: January 31, 1994.

PHOTOGRAPH: Photograph (1) enclosed taken by Reid I. Allen on November 28, 1994.