

Ross's Goose  
21 Mar 1980  
Willow Slough, Mills Co., IA  
\*B. Wilson  
IBL 50:45, 52:41

Record Number: 80-03  
Classification: A-D

DOCUMENTATION

Barb Wilson

REFERENCES

Field Reports, IBL 50:45  
Records Committee, IBL 52:41

VOTE: 6-Yes, 1-No

Yes, Could have given better size description.

Yes, Based on lack of grin patch and bill shape. Wish had more details on size.

No, Degrees to which bird smaller than a Snow Goose not stated.

Yes, Convincing description, location and date fit expected pattern.

Yes, Field marks seen; very careful and reliable observer. I discussed this sighting with her.

REVOTE (at meeting, 20 Sep 1980): 6 yes, 1 no

accepted  
9/20/80  
6/1

80-3

Ross's Goose - 1  
Willow Slough, Mills County, Iowa

March 21, 1980

Description: White goose with black primaries. Larger than a Mallard + more robust. Smaller than other Snow Geese. Head round, neck ~~thin~~ stout. Eye dark. Bill small, conical, dark pink. No black "grin" mark seen. Feet reddish, bright at base of legs. Rust stain a vertical streak below left wing.

Similar species: Snow Goose! Seemed to differ in size, head shape, bill shape, color of bill (darker w Ross's goose) and lack of black grin mark.

Light, etc.: Originally in sunlight, but then cloud hid sun. 4:30 pm, looking ESE, and then the bird ~~to~~ moved north. Wind moderate, not a problem. Distance rather far. Over 100 yards. Bird on far side of Willow Slough. 40x telescope. Watched the bird over 15 minutes. No books used w field or ~~to~~ to write field notes. This written May 29 from notes ~~to~~ taken March 21.

I've never seen a Ross's Grouse before, though I've looked for them.

See field notes for a longer if less legible description.

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