

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck
23 Oct 1988
Ingham L., Emmet Co., IA
*Hartwig
IBL 59:10, 76; 65:83

Record Number: 88-14
Classification: A-D

DOCUMENTATION

Tom Hartwig

REFERENCES

Field Reports: IBL 59:10

Records Committee: IBL 59:76; 64:69, 65:83

VOTE: 6-A-E, 1-NA

Status of species unknown. (please insert appropriate code)

A-E. ID is correct, but author doesn't attempt to eliminate an escaped bird which is the most likely explanation with this species.

A-E. Very brief description, but what else could it be? The long, pink legs, orange bill, dark belly, and color of the rest of the bird fits only Black-bellied Whistling-Duck. While the identification is correct, the origin of the bird is suspicious. Probably an escapee, although this species is known to wander in fall (Sep-Nov).

A-E. Although not elegant, the features describe Black-bellied Whistling-Duck. We don't know if the description is a copy of the field notes. In the future we may be able to decide whether these birds are escapes or naturally occurring vagrants.

NA. This species is kept in captivity quite frequently and is due to its infrequency of vagrancy I would have to question the origination of this bird. I have no doubt from the description that this is a Black-bellied Whistling-Duck but cannot say that this is not an escapee or release from a captive breeder or farm.

A-E. No mention of wing and tail tips checked for wear from a cage or enclosure. Not as likely a wild bird as the previously rejected.

A-E. Probably escape. ID seems OK, despite hybrid name on documentation! Date of Oct 23 is less likely for vagrant probably than a spring (May) date. Unless this record can be shown to be part of a vagrancy pattern in fall of 1988 I consider it an escape or liberated bird.

SEND TO: Tom Hartwig, 1040 Maben, Garner, IA 50438

REVOTE (at meeting, 14 Aug 1994): 7 A-D

What species? Fulvous Black-Bellied Tree Duck How many? 1Location? INGHAM LAKE, Emmet County - on RefugeType of habitat? Duck WAS SEEN STANDING ON A ROCK FIRST AND THEN IT WENT INTO THE WATER
FOU A FEW MINUTE, THEN CAME BACK ON THE ROCK.When? date(s): 10/23/88 time: _____ to _____Who? your name and address: TOM HARTWIG 1040 MILDEN GARDNER, IA 50438others with you: Doug Lemke 645 G-Road GARDNER, IA 50438others before or after you: WE TOLD THE PARK CAME THARK AT INGHAM ABOUT IT. HE SAID HE
WOULD GO LOOK AT IT TOO.

Describe the bird(s) including only what you observed. Include size, shape, details of all parts (bill, eye, head, neck, back, wing, tail, throat, breast, belly, undertail, legs, feet). Also mention voice and behavior.

Long Pink legs, Long Neck - light Brown,
orange Bill, Back was Medium Brown, Light
Colored stripe Down side of body when
Standing (cream color), Belly - very Dark Brown
To Black, Brown Head.

Verification Positive From Book of Birds
immediately after returning Home.

Similar species and how eliminated:

Left unmolested

Did anyone disagree or have reservations about the identification? NO

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment:
Seen in Daylight Daylight, first with 7X35 AND 8X40 BINOCULARS. THEN WITH A 60 POWER
SPOTTING SCOPE. IT WAS VIEWED AT ABOUT 200 YDS.Previous experience with this species and similar ones: KNEW DUCK FROM PICTURES FROM GOLDEN
BILLS IN NORTH AMERICA. Doug Lemke is a Taxidermist and studies Birds for his
References and persons consulted before writing description:

None

How long before field notes made? Immediately This form completed? 10/26/88