

Notes On Identification - Fall 1985

White-winged Scoter -

The DeSoto Bend bird (11-13-85) was a female. It was dark (blackish) overall with two white spots on each side of head - one in front of and one behind the eye. The speculum was white but not visible until the wing was outstretched. The Big Creek State Park bird (11-23-85) was evidently a male with no white on head but had very obvious white speculums which were easily seen while bird was at rest. Bird was black with slight orangish tinge to bill.

Golden Eagle -

The Saylonville Reservoir bird (11-10-85) was an immature. Bird was solid dark brown. It showed a light area at base of inner primaries on lower side of both wings. The tail seemed mostly white (at least $\frac{2}{3}$) with a broad dark terminal band.

Viewing distance was approx. 50-75 yd. Bird was much too big for a rough-legged hawk.

Tennessee Warbler - (11-3-85)

The biggest problem with this identification was convincing myself that at this late date the bird wasn't an orange-crowned warbler. The bird was no more than 6 ft. off the ground and about 15-20 ft. away so I was able to observe closely. It showed a clear light yellowish breast with no sign of streaking. The face showed a dark eyeline and a lighter stripe over eye. The back was basically olive-green color. Undertail coverts were white. Most orange-crowns are more dingy with faint streaking on breast and have yellowish undertail coverts.

Pine Warbler - (9-23-85)

This warbler showed yellow throat and breast with dark streaking on sides of breast. Back and head were olive-green and had no streaks. Wings each had two prominent whitish bars.