

Dear Mr. Kent,

After talking with Hank Zetzel, I was given the suggestion of writing up a brief field report of a possible sighting of a Tundra Swan (Cygnus columbianus) on March 13, 1982 at Schnyder Bend near Sioux City, Iowa.

I located the bird on a small body of open water along with several hundred mallards. I only saw the swan in flight and was unable to make a good attempt to sight the distinguishing yellow patch in front of the eyes. The only other coloring noted was the extensive wash of "rust" covering the head and neck. One quick muffled "grunt" was the only vocalizations detected.

The swan could be lured in closer to myself by crouching low and not moving. The bird would circle around and repeatedly approach closer with each pass.

I could not make a positive identification of a Tundra Swan. I refer to the bird

as a Tundra Swan because it first  
heard of its presence over the Iowa  
Bird Line.

The weather that day had a completely  
overcast sky, 10 mph winds, and a temp.  
of approximately 32° F.

About 70% of the lake, ponds, and  
marshes were frozen, leaving small  
open water spaces throughout the park.

Other waterfowl present were the following:

Thousands of Mallards	4 Ring-Necked Ducks
~50 Northern Pintails	4 Redheads
10 Godwits	10 American Wigeons
2 Blue-Winged Teals	20 Common Mergansers
1 Green-Winged Teal	20 Canada Geese
20 Common Goldeneyes	

Also, 5 adult and 3 immature Bald Eagles,  
1 immature Golden Eagle, and 2 Northern  
Harriers.

Halloway

I have several pictures of the swans,  
all of which are in flight. I sent three  
of these to Pete Peterson if you are  
interested in looking them over.

Filey #4471 Converse

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Ames IA 50012

Sincerely,

Jack A. Halloway III