

MARSCHING

BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD.

1. Species Cinnamon Teal 2. Number: 107:1 ♀ probable

3. Location headwaters of Big Creek reservoir

4. Date: 7 Sept 1980 5. Time Bird seen: 12-15 min. in mud to afternoon

6. Description of size, shape and color-pattern (describe in great detail all parts of the plumage, and beak and feet coloration, in addition, to the diagnostic characteristics, but include only what actually was seen in the field):

size & shape very similar to Blue Wing Teal which were nearby. ♂ + ♀ together on mud. ♂ rust on head, neck, breast, & belly. black bill. ♀ looked like ♀ Blue Wing Teal

(♀ presumed to be Cinnamon Teal because of close association with ♂)

7. Description of voice, if heard: —

8. Description of behavior: ♂ standing by ♂ of blue wing teal when approached by boat

9. Habitat - general: shallow water interspersed with marsh & some mud flat edge  
specific: —

10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7 & 8, Explain:

blue wing teal - had completely rust colored head, neck, breast & belly green wing teal.

11. Distance (how measured)? abt 60 yds guessed 12. Optical equipment: bushnell spot scope 25X

13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you):

clear sun to right of birds & me

14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species:

seen in Idaho

15. Other observers:

Hank Zalcitel & John —?

16. Did the others agree with your identification? yes

17. Other observers who independently identified this bird: heard that later in day a group from Des Moines saw it & concurred in identification

18. Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description:

Petersons Field Guide to Birds

Cadden Birds of N. America

Ducks, Geese & Swans of N. Amer. by Bellrose

19. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description? 1 day

Carl Marsching Address: 1120 Marston  
Signature

Date: 8 Sept 1980 City, State: Ames Iowa

after these two (♂ + ♀) flew off, saw another ♂ (?) quite white with orange tail (very obvious when flying) ↓

no obvious speculum - fairly round script -  
did not see out on land - just flying several  
times & in water. It was lighter orange or  
rust orange than ~~the~~<sup>2<sup>nd</sup></sup> male. Speculum on  
♂ of pair very obvious. Seemed quite similar  
to first male except lighter & no obvious  
speculum. 3rd specimen ???