

DOCUMENTATION FORM

Species?Oldsquaw

How Many?1 female

Location?Saylorville Reservoir, Polk Co. (near Jester Park)

Habitat?large lake

Date?28 Nov 1986

Time?3:50-4:05 P.M.

Observers Name and address:Steve Dinsmore, Ames

Others who saw bird:none

Description of bird:The bird was the same size as a female Lesser Scaup swimming with it. The bird's head, neck, chest, and sides were all white. The back was dull brown. The bird also had a couple of brown blotches on the side of the neck. The bill was dark and a little bit smaller than the Lesser Scaup's bill. The dark bill and lack of a long tail meant the bird had to be a female.

Similar species and how eliminated:No other duck shows so much white color and a stubby, dark bill.

Viewing conditions and equipment:Viewing conditions were good with the sun behind me. Estimated viewing distance was 150 yards. I used a Buschnell 20-45x spotting scope.

Previous experience with species:I have seen three other Oldsquaw in Iowa, plus several in Massachusetts.

References consulted:none

How long before field notes were made?none made

How long before this form was completed?5 hours