

1982

X-mas Count

GILBERT

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? Oed Squaw How many? 1 (female)

Location? SOUTH TAILWATER DAY-USE AREA; <sup>JUST BELOW</sup> DAM; LAKE RED ROCK; WARREN CO.

Type of habitat? MARSHY-POND-LIKE BAY (SHALLOW), INTERSPERSED W/ RUSH/SEDGE CLUMPS

When? date(s): 19 DEC. (SUNDAY) time: 10 to 10:30

Who? your name and address: BILL GILBERT, DEPT. BIOLOGY, SIMPSON COLLEGE, INDIANOLA 50125

others with you: DALE FYE (CEDAR RAPIDS); PAUL REGNIER, WARREN CO. CONS. BD. NATURALIST

others before or after you: \_\_\_\_\_

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, under tail, legs, feet). Also mention voice and behavior.

female in winter plumage, very pale, white, head, with brown strip over top of head & v. small brown patch under the eye... & buffy brown breast.

Similar species and how eliminated: Oedsquaw is the only bird (duck?) with a white head (It surely wasn't a Bufflehead!)

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? No

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment: Cloudy skies; we were within 10-20 yards of her for about 3 minutes before she dove under & gave us the slip!

Previous experience with species and similar ones: We've seen Oedsquaw before

References and persons consulted before writing description: Robbin's "BIRDS OF N.A."

How long before field notes made? DURING SIGHTING this form completed? 11 JAN '83

MAIL