

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? White-winged Scooter How many? 3Location? Welch Lake, Dickinson County 3 mi W, 2 mi N Spirit LakeType of habitat? 75 acre open water shallow lakeWhen? date(s): Nov 1 1986 time: 4:00 to 4:15Who? your name and address: Ed Thelen RR Box 7414-A Spirit Lakeothers with you: Cal Tigges - Spirit Lake

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.

- Large dark black duck size of mallard. 2 obscure white facial markings. Observed white wing patch on 2 of them as they were on the water. Saw secondaries on all three birds as they flew (when we stopped the car to observe) showing clearly the white speculum. Flight of birds was low over the water.

- Used Peterson field guide to I.D. them. This time of year I routinely keep field glasses or ~~binoculars~~ binoculars in vehicle.

Similar species and how eliminated:

Synt Scooter - Large white wing patches when they flew identified them as white-wings

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? NO

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment:

GOOD - partly cloudy
8-power binoculars ✓

Previous experience with species and similar ones: Observed mounted specimens

References and persons consulted before writing description:

- used Peterson field guide

How long before field notes made? 3 days this form completed? 6 daysMAIL TO: ~~T. H. Kent~~, Field Reports Editor, ~~211 Richards Street~~, Iowa City IA 52240