

DOCUMENTATION FORM
For Extraordinary Bird Sightings in Iowa

What species? Greater Scaup - 2 ♂, 1 ♀ How many? 3
Location? South Shore of BIG SPIRIT LAKE - Dickinson County
Type of Habitat? Large Natural Lake
When? date(s): Nov. 19 - 1998 time: 12:00pm to 12:15pm
Who? your name and address: Ed Thelen 15362 250th Ave Spirit Lake
Others with you: —
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, undertail, legs, feet). Also mention voice and behavior.

Observed a flock of 11 scaup on Spirit Lake. 3 of the birds appeared larger than the rest. The following characteristics were noted: ~~#~~ Larger size with head and bill the most pronounced

~~#~~ GREEN SHEEN on the two Drakes

~~#~~ Round profile of the head. No point noticed at any time

I did not see them in flight. I could not at any time see the extension of white on

Similar species; how eliminated:

- lesser scaup eliminated for the reasons stated above The outer wing.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about the identification? —
If yes, explain:

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

- Excellent - sun at my back
- 50 yds (est.)
- Spotting Scope (B&L Discoverer) Binocs. (8x44)

Previous experience with species and similar ones:

I seen thousands of scaup and have had some birds I thought might be greater scaup but this is the first time I was positive.
References and persons consulted before writing description:

How long before field notes made? 1 month this form completed? 1 month

Send completed form to Field Reports or CBC editor (address on back cover of Iowa Bird Life).