

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? Cinnamon Teal How many? 1 ♂Location? New Lake, Woodbury County, IowaType of habitat? small Mo. River oxbow with marshy bordersWhen? date(s): 4-7-86 time: 10:00 AM to 4:30 PMWho? your name and address: ³⁾ Bill Huser 319 W. 17th St. So. Sioux City NE
others with you: ³⁾ Bob Livermore 68776others before or after you: ¹⁾ Wayne & LorRayne Livermore (finders); ²⁾ Jerry Probst

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.

Duck with reddish (cinnamon-colored) head & underparts with 4 male blue-wing teal & 1 ♀ teal. Slightly larger body than ♂ b.w. teal; longer, broader black bill; red-orange eye; absence of any facial pattern or white flank patch. Swam with bill tip nearer water surface than b.w. teal ♂'s. Preening bird showed green speculum, pale blue upper forewing, and white trailing edge to blue area.

Seemingly paired with the female teal (judging by direct comparison of bill size to both b.w. & cinn. teal ♂'s and the distinct dark eyestripe - a ♀ b.w. teal). Although b.w. teal ♂'s wandered while feeding, the cinn. ♂ & b.w. ♀ were always within 3 ft. of each other. Cinn. ♂ head bobbed, & drove off b.w. males upon their close approach.

Similar species and how eliminated: Blue-wing teal: direct comparison of of above listed field marks.Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? No!

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment:
Excellent visibility, direct sunlight on bird from observers' back.Estimated distances: initially 100 ft. WALL; ~300 ft. JP, BH, BLPrevious experience with species and similar ones:
BUSHNELL 16-48X Zoom Scope; 32X Bushnell scope; Binoculars
First Cinn. teal. Very familiar with blue wing teal; also familiar with g.w. teal.

References and persons consulted before writing description:

Golden Field Guide to Birds; Nat'l Geog. Soc. FG. to the BirdsHow long before field notes made? 4 hr. this form completed? <24 hr.

MAIL TO: T. H. Kent, Field Reports Editor, 211 Richards Street, Iowa City IA 52240

All 3 groups viewed for extended periods of time.