

DOCUMENTATION FORM

Species?Western sandpiper

How Many?2

Location?3 miles e. of Ames, Story Co.

Habitat?flooded field

Date?30 Sep 1986

Time?late afternoon

Observers Name and address:Steve Dinsmore, Ames

Others who saw bird:Paul Martsching

Description of bird:Both birds were feeding with several Semipalmated and Pectoral sandpipers in a flooded field. Both birds had very obvious long, drooped bills. As compared to Semipalmated Sandpipers, both birds had rusty scapulars and some rust color on the head. The legs were dark.

Similar species and how eliminated:The rusty scapulars and long, drooped bills eliminate Semipalmated Sandpiper.

Viewing conditions and equipment:Viewing conditions were o.k. Estimated viewing distance was 15-20 yards. I used a Bushnell 20x spotting scope.

Previous experience with species:I have seen several Western Sandpipers in Iowa in fall.

References consulted:NGS Field Guide to the Birds of North America

How long before field notes were made?immediately

How long before this form was completed?4 hours