

## DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? White-winged Scoter (Melanitta fusca) How many? 1 ♂Location? Coralville Reservoir, N. of main Dam, Johnson Co.Type of habitat? Open waterWhen? date(s): October 23, 1983 time: 2:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.Who? your name and address: Francis L. Moore, 336 Fairfield St., Waterloo, IA 50703others with you: Gene Armstrong (was there when I arrived) with others.others before or after you: Ross Silcock, Tom Kent, Tom Stout, Carl Bendorf, m.ob.

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.

Ross Silcock and others had seen the bird earlier in the day. The bird was sitting out on the open water about 125 yards N. of the parking lot where we were viewing. It was all dark except a small white patch showing on its wing and a small white patch near its eye. As we were viewing the bird a motor boat came down the lake toward it and intentionally changed its direction so that it could chase the duck. As the bird flew past our location at about 30 to 40 yards the white speculum and white tear-drop shaped spot just behind its eye could easily be seen. The rest of the bird was a uniform Black all over. The bird's bill appeared either a bright pink or orange color. I did not see its legs or feet. No voice was heard.

Similar species and how eliminated: Other all black ducks do not have white speculum or secondaries.Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? No

If yes, explain:

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

Excellent viewing conditions, sunny, closest distance was about 30 to 40 yards, as it flew past being chased by a boat, through B+L 7x35mm Roof Prism binoculars and Celestron C90 telescope with 33x eyepiece.

Previous experience with species and similar ones: Have seen many individuals of all three scoters along the Atlantic Coast of Virginia.References and persons consulted before writing description: NoneHow long before field notes made? 4 hrs. this form completed? 24 hours

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