

DOCUMENTATION FORM
For Extraordinary Bird Sightings in Iowa

What species? Solitary Sandpiper How many? 3

Location? Union Slough Nat. W.R., Kosciusko Co., Ia, south side of Titonka blacktop, East shore

Type of Habitat? Marsh

When? date(s): May 24 1988 time: 8:30(est) to 8:35(est) AM

Who? your name and address: Matthew Kenne, 709 N. Phillips, Algona, Ia. 50511

Others with you: none

Others before or after you: none

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.

I was watching a flock of peeps in ~~the~~ shallow water with a spotting ~~scope~~ scope. I looked up, and 3 shore birds were searching the mud at the edge of the reeds about 15 yds beyond the flock. They were taller than the peeps, with longer legs (lighter colored than semipalmateds black legs) and longer necks. They had ~~a~~ dark backs, lighter ~~and~~ whitish below. The light eye-ring was very evident on all 3 birds. They did not associate with the peeps ~~or~~ react to them at all. I looked ~~at~~ at the flock of peeps momentarily, when I looked back, they were gone. I did not see them in flight, or hear them.

Similar species; how eliminated:

They did not have the yellow legs of the yellow legs.
The eye ring is definitely the mark of the solitary.

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

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

Full sunlight. 30 yards (est) E, 15-45/60 spotting scope on window mount

Previous experience with species and similar ones:

Seen solitary, yellow leg, other shore birds many times at this location.

References and persons consulted before writing description:

none

How long before field notes made? 30 min. this form completed? 2 hr.

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