

What species? Greater Scaup How many? 10-15Location? Little Clear Lake - Pocahontas Co IAType of habitat? Marshy Shallow LakeWhen? date(s): 4/6-7/85 time: 9:00 to 10:00 AMWho? your name and address: Judith Carlson RR2 Box 68 Laurens IAothers with you: Alone on Sat the 6th - Bill + Sarah Hubbell on Sun 7thothers before or after you: Wally Sardine on Sunday 7th

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.

Greater Scaups were in a Flock that also had Buffle heads  
 Less Scaups + Ring necked Duck - Co Scaup appeared whiter or  
 lighter on back than lesser Scaup - in Direct Sunlight Greenish  
 Sheen of head very evident head appeared more rounded  
 Not domed or pointed like lesser Scaup + Ringed necked Ducks.  
 Co Scaup also appeared bigger - or heavier in build - including  
 the beak.

When Greater Scaup flew away from me the white  
 along the trailing edge of the wing extended in to the  
 primary feathers but not all the way out to the fore  
 edge.

Females were more rusty colored in the Co Scaup. Lesser  
 Scaup females were darker - almost black down the back

Similar species and how eliminated: Color + sizeDid any one disagree or have reservations about identification? No

If yes, explain:

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

Bright Sun 50 yds or less. 10x50 Glasses + 16x36 Spotting Scope  
 Sun was on the Duck and to my back.

Previous experience with species and similar ones: Have seen many Lesser Scaups  
 every Spring - also have seen Greater Scaups when with other birds and heard field marks  
 and lighting that is needed to distinguish between the two.

References and persons consulted before writing description:

Audubon Society master guide to Birds Vol I - Peterson's Field Guide

How long before field notes made? immediately this form completed? 4/7/85

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