

BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF
AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD

CUMMINS

1. Species Surf Scoter (female) 2. Number 3
3. Location LIZARD LAKE GILMORE CITY, IOWA
4. Date: 10-5-80 5. Time Bird Seen: 3:00 P.M. to 3:30 P.M.
6. Description of size, shape and color-pattern (describe in great detail all parts of the plumage, and beak and feet coloration, in addition, to the diagnostic characteristics, but include only what actually was seen in the field):
- Large bulky bodied duck - UNIFORMLY COLORED BROWN-BLACK - two white spots on the face. BIRD was flushed and no white wing patches WERE VISIBLE.
7. Description of voice, if heard: N/A
8. Description of behavior: RUNNING ON WATER TAKE OFF
9. Habitat - general: OPEN WATER
specific:
10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7 & 8. Explain:
11. Distance (how measured)? 30 YARDS 12. Optical equipment: 7x35 BINOCULAR
13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you):
14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species:
Have seen numerous scoters on both coasts and one surf scoter and one white winged scoter in this
15. Other observers: NONE county. ¹⁹⁷⁷ (1979)
16. Did the others agree with your identification? N/A
17. Other observers who independently identified this bird: NO
18. Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description: NONE
19. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description? 11-7-80

Signature: Raymond D. Cummins Address: 204 NW 12th Street

Date: 11-7-80 Pocahontas City, State: Iowa

Seems OK
but not very good
descriptive
TC