

DOCUMENTATION FORM
For Extraordinary Bird Sightings in Iowa

What species? Surf Scoter Rowl ♂ How many? 1

Location? Green Island W.A. - Jackson Co.

Type of Habitat? Marsh - pond area, diked from river

When? date(s): May 13, 1996 time: 6:15 to 6:16 AM CST

Who? your name and address: Peter C. Petersen, 735 McClellan Blvd. Davenport, IA

Others with you: Brian Blevins, Don Moeller

Others before or after you: none to our knowledge

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.

seen only in flight - Large clumpy, dark duck except for white belly, white spots behind the bill & eye, large, dark bill
Bird in view both coming & going. Not heard. Color brownish grey.
Very heavy headed look.

Similar species; how eliminated: No white on wing, eliminating Wh.-ug. Scoter
White much too limited for Black Scoter, also wings uniformly dark.
Too large for Harlequin Duck

Did any one disagree or have reservations about the identification? no
If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), optical equipment. sun behind obs.
thin clouds, est. 30 m. at closest 10x40 Zeiss binocs (Pcs) 9x Cannon DM
7x - BB

Previous experience with species and similar ones: Have seen many times on both coasts & previously in Iowa.

References and persons consulted before writing description: none

How long before field notes made? 10 min this form completed? 26 hrs

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