

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? White-winged Scoter How many? 4Location? Mississippi R., n. of Ft Madison, Lee Co. IowaType of habitat? Open riverWhen? date(s): 25 Oct 1981 time: 11²⁵ to 11²⁵ AMWho? your name and address: Thomas H. Kent, 211 Richards St, Iowa City IA 52240others with you: Mike Newton, Mike Mulier

others before or after you: _____

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.

4 large black ducks flying up river about 70 ft off water.
 All black except for large white patch in secondaries.
 Relatively slow wing beat, heavy body, large head.

Similar species and how eliminated:

Size, white wing patch, black color eliminates all other species

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? no

If yes, explain:

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

Overcast, bright rain, birds seen from car at 200 yards (est)
 8x binoculars

Previous experience with species and similar ones: Saw 3 times in Iowa and on West CoastReferences and persons consulted before writing description: noHow long before field notes made? 2 min this form completed? 4 hrs.

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