

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? White-winged Scoter How many? 5 (1 ♂, 4 imm. or ♀)Location? De Soto Bend NWR, Harrison CountyType of habitat? large oxbow lake along major riverWhen? date(s): 11 Nov., 1985 time: 2:30 PM to 4:00 PMWho? your name and address: Steve Dinsmore 4024 Arkansas Dr. Ames IA 50010others with you: James Dinsmore and Mark Dixon, both of Ames, and B.J. Rose, Nebraskaothers before or after you: m.ob.

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.

The male White-winged Scoter was fairly easy to identify. The black body, black wings with a white wing patch, white eye spot and dark bill identified the bird as a White-winged Scoter.

Several other White-winged Scoters, females or immatures, were also seen nearby. All of these birds were identified by the dark brown color over the entire body, the white wing patches, and the white spot on the eye.

Similar species and how eliminated:

All other ducks and scoters eliminated by all dark appearance, white wing patches, and white spot on cheek.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? No.If yes, explain: —Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment:
Light was excellent

Previous experience with species and similar ones:

I have seen White-winged Scoters in Iowa and Massachusetts.

References and persons consulted before writing description:

How long before field notes made? — this form completed? 24 hours

MAIL TO: T. H. Kent, Field Reports Editor, 211 Richards Street, Iowa City IA 52240