

DOCUMENTATION FORM

Species?Black Scoter

How Many?2 females or imm.

Location?Big Creek State Park, Polk Co.

Habitat?large body of water

Date?12 Nov 1986

Time?3:45-4:45 P.M.

Observers Name and address:Steve Dinsmore 4024 Arkansas Dr. Ames IA  
50010

Others who saw bird:Bob Myers, Mark and Beth Proescholdt

Description of bird:This description was written from one of the birds which was shot. A medium-sized all-dark duck with a light belly and a large white cheek patch. Bill and feet were dark. Wings were uniformly dark with no noticeable speculum.

Similar species and how eliminated:No other duck shows the combination of a dark body, a white cheek patch, and dark wings lacking speculums.

Viewing conditions and equipment:Estimated viewing distance was 50-75 yards and light was excellent. I used Nikon 8 x 23 binoculars and a Buschnell 20-45x scope.

Previous experience with species:I have seen all three species of scoters on the east coast, but only White-winged and Surf in Iowa.

References consulted:NGS Field Guide to the Birds of North America

How long before field notes were made?none made

How long before this form was completed?2 weeks