

BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF
AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD

1. Species NORTHERN PHALAROPE 2. Number 1
 3. Location GILMORE CITY SEWAGE POND, GILMORE CITY, IOWA
 4. Date: 9-20-79 5. Time Bird Seen: 8:05 to 8:30
 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):
 1. BACK DARK - NO DIFFERENCE IN COLOR BETWEEN WINGS AND BACK
 2. LARGE 1" BLACK PATCH IN BACK OF EYE, WHITE EYEBROW LINE - BLACK CAPE
 3. FAIRLY HEAVY GRAY MOTTLING ON SIDES, DARKER AROUND BREAST. NEARLY TOUCH AROUND NECK.
 4. BILL IS WHAT ATTRACTED MY ATTENTION IT SEEM SHORT AND SLIGHTLY MORE STOCKY THAN WILSON'S. BILL WAS SAME LENGTH AS THE HEAD.
 5. DURING FLIGHT THE BIRD HAD WHITE PRIMES AND TWO LIGHT BACK STRIPES, BIRD WAS FLUSHED TWICE.
 7. Description of voice, if heard: N/A
 8. Description of behavior: SLOWER MOVING THAN THE WILSON'S
 9. Habitat - general: SEWAGE LAGOON
specific: EDGE OF ALGAE ABOUT 15 YARDS FROM SHORE
 10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7 & 8. Explain:
 11. Distance (how measured)? 30 yards ESTIMATE 12. Optical equipment: 20x Spotting scope
X BINOCULARS during flight
 13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you):
Excellent - clear - SUN WAS IN THE EAST AND THE BIRD WAS TO THE south west
 14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species:
Regularly see Wilson's Phalarope
 15. Other observers: NONE
 16. Did the others agree with your identification? N/A
 17. Other observers who independently identified this bird: N/A
 18. Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description:
Audubon Water Bird Guide - NORTH AMERICAN BIRDS - PETERSON'S FIELD - ALL CONSULTED DURING OBSERVATION
 19. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description?
WRITTEN DURING OBSERVATION
- Signature: Raymond L. Hummins Address: 204 NW 12th Street
Date: 12-3-79 Pocahontas City, State: IOWA 50574