

Records Committee, Iowa Ornithologists' Union

Printed: 11/22/00

Red Phalarope

3 Nov 1996

Spirit L., Dickinson Co., IA

*Lee A. Schoenewe, *Ed Thelen (photos)

IBL 67:22, 81; P-0518

Record Number: 96-52

Classification: A-P

DOCUMENTATION

Lee A. Schoenewe, 518 W. 4th St., Spencer 51301 [4/6/97]

Ed Thelen, RR 8725, Spirit Lake 51360 [4/6/97]

PHOTOGRAPHS

Ed Thelen, P-0518

REFERENCES

Field Reports: IBL 67:22

Records Committee: IBL 67:81

VOTE: 7 A-P

A-P, The photos show the width of the wing stripe, lack of any visible streaks on the back, extent of color on the hindneck and head, and width of the bill at the base which are all diagnostic.

A-P, Photos by Thelen are very good. Describing Red and Red-necked Phalaropes is not easy; in fall molting birds can be confusing. Bill shape and size can be suggestive also.



Red Phalarope P-0518
Spirit L., Dickinson Co., IA
3 Nov 1996 Ed Thelen 96-52

NOV 11 1996 21:00 HARRIS-6900 478

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DOCUMENTATION FORM

Species How many? RED PHALAROPE 1

Location? SE CORNER OF BIG SPIRIT LAKE, DICKINSON CO.

Type of habitat? LAKE SHORE

When? date(s): 11/3/96 Time: . 3:30 PM - 4:45 PM

Who? your name and address
LEE A. SCHOENEWE 518 W. 4TH ST. SPENCER, IA. 51301

Others with you NANCY SCHOENEWE, HAROLD WHITE, ED THELEN

Others before and after you

Describe the bird(s) including only what you observed. Include size, shape, details of all parts (bill, head, neck, back, wing, tail, throat, breast, belly, under tail, legs, feet). Also describe voice and behavior. OBSERVED A SANDPIPER-SHAPED BIRD IN THE SHALLOW WATER ALONG THE SANDY, ROCKY SHORELINE. STOUT DARK BILL AND SOLID GRAY BACK COULD BE SEEN WELL, AND SMUDGES OF CINNAMON COULD BE SEEN ALONG THE NECK TO THE UPPER BREAST. BLACK EXTENDED FROM THE BACK OF THE CROWN TO THE BACK. SEVERAL SHORT FLIGHTS REVEALED THE SOLID GRAY BACK AND WHITE WING STRIPE.

Similar species and how eliminated:
RED-NECKED PHALAROPE - BILL SHAPE AND SOLID GRAY BACK

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? NO

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment: LATE AFTERNOON SUN; 30-200 YDS;
20x60 SCOPE, 8x40 BINOCULARS

Previous experience with this species and similar ones:
SIGHTING 11/94 ON BIG SPIRIT

References and persons consulted before writing description:

How long before field notes made? IMMEDIATELY
this form completed? 4 HRS

Mail original form to field editor for this season.

DOCUMENTATION FORM
For Extraordinary Bird Sightings in Iowa

96-52

What species? Red Phalarope How many? 1
Location? South shore of BIG SPIRIT - Orleans Beach - Dickinson
Type of Habitat? Natural Lake - Sandy shore County
When? date(s): 11-3-96 thru 11-7-96 time: 11-3-96 4:15 pm 11-7-96 6:00 pm
Who? your name and address: Ed Thelen RR 8725 SPIRIT LAKE, IA 51360
Others with you: Nancy McC Schonewee, Harold White, Doug Hoff
Others before or after you: Doug Hark, Tim Waltz

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.

(See photos)

Heard high-pitched
peep 2 times
as it flew

was seen w/ 507
American Cootr at
all times.

- 400 mm lens

Reading from my original notes: "medium sized sandpiper cutting circles in water 1-10 ft from shore. white forehead, dark cap extending down nape to back. white belly, chest white and grey unstreaked back. Faint rust on neck extending halfway down to chest. Short dark bill. Dark eyeline. When it flew had white wing stripes - no stripe on back.

Similar species; how eliminated:

- Red-necked Phalarope - streaked back, longer bill
- Wilson's Phalarope - longer bill, unstreaked wings

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

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

GOOD - SUN on bird - was able to approach bird within 20 ft.
- 8x40 binoculars

Previous experience with species and similar ones:

none except red-necked & Wilson seen in Spring

References and persons consulted before writing description:

Peterson Bird Guide

How long before field notes made? 2 hrs this form completed? 12-7-96

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

Red Phalarope

11-3-96

96-52

BIG SPIRIT LAKE
DICKINSON COUNTY



photo from slide

by Ed Thelen

RA 8725

Spirit Lake, IA. 51360