

Clinton

Middlewestern Prairie Region
(Iowa, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio)

BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD.

1. Species Whistling Swan 2. Number: 1

3. Location Lock & Dam 13, Clinton, Iowa

4. Date: January 3, 1980 5. Time Bird seen: 8:30AM to seen for 15 sec.

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):
Large white bird with wings set back behind middle of bird's length; neck about 1/2 body length. Black bill, black feet

7. Description of voice, if heard: none

8. Description of behavior: in flight

9. Habitat - general: riverbottom
specific: LrD 13, Miss River, water open 2 miles below dam

10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7 & 8, Explain:
Snow Goose
Mute Swan

11. Distance (how measured): 600-800 yds.
straight road

12. Optical equipment: 8.5x44 Binos
10x Binos
7x50 Binos

13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you):
Sunny bright, light from behind viewers - looking west

14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species:
seen thousands on the Miss. R. near LaCrosse & Wabasha

15. Other observers:
Paul VanNieuwenhuysse and Kelly McKay

16. Did the others agree with your identification?
Yes
Other observers who independently identified this bird:
None

17. Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description:
None

18. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description? 9 hours

19. Signature: William Frederick Teske Address: 509 Wagon St.

20. Date: Jan. 3, 1980 City, State: La Crosse, Wis, 54601