

ACCEPTED 7-0 rec'd 11-98

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS  
SIGHT RECORD FORM

RESULTS: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE. ATTACH PHOTOGRAPHS AND ADDITIONAL PAGES IF NECESSARY.

SPECIES: Black Scoter Melanitta nigra  
(COMMON NAME) (SCIENTIFIC NAME)DATE(S) OF OCCURRENCE: OCT 18 1998NUMBER OF BIRDS SEEN: one SEX: male PLUMAGE: AdultEXACT LOCATION: South & Southwest portion of Barr LakeCOUNTY: Adams NEAREST TOWN: Brighton ELEVATION: 5000LENGTH OF OBSERVATION: 1 hr TIMES(S) OF OBSERVATION: 15:40 - 16:40

OTHER OBSERVERS WHO INDEPENDENTLY SAW THE BIRD(S):

Joey Kolwer Gene RutherfordDickschuttler

LIGHT CONDITIONS [QUALITY; DIRECTION RELATIVE TO BIRD(S); POSITION]:

CLEAR, EAST WIND @ 5-10 mph 1st - SUN BETWEEN OBSERVERS AND BIRD off Left side of Bird  
we work our position until sun was behind our backsOPTICAL EQUIPMENT USED: Zeiss 10x40  
Kowa TSW-4 20-60 ZoomDISTANCE FROM BIRD (ESTIMATED UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED): From 800 yd to 200 yds AT ENDWAS THE BIRD PHOTOGRAPHED: No IF SO, HAVE YOU SUBMITTED PHOTOS? \_\_\_\_\_

WHO TOOK THE PHOTOGRAPHS? \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIBE THE GENERAL AND SPECIFIC HABITAT IN WHICH THE BIRD(S) OCCURRED:

BARR LAKE OPEN WATER

DESCRIBE THE BIRD'S BEHAVIOR (FLYING; FEEDING; HABITS; BEHAVIORS USED IN IDENTIFYING THE SPECIES OR IN SUPPORTING THE IDENTIFICATION):

THE BIRD WAS FIRST OBSERVED swimming due west parallel to the  
south shore AND ABOUT 100 yds off shore. I dove once briefly.  
THEN PLACED its HEAD on its BACK AND DRIFTED/PADDLED  
IN A GENERAL AREA THEN REMAINDER of OBSERVATION, OCCASIONALLY  
Lifting its HEAD for A SECOND OR TWO.

DESCRIBE THE BIRD IN DETAIL. THIS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF THIS REPORT. INCLUDE OVERALL SIZE AND SHAPE, AND HOW YOU PLACED THE BIRD IN THE GENERAL GROUP THAT YOU DID. GIVE COMPLETE DETAILS OF PLUMAGE, INCLUDING HEAD, THROAT, UNDERSIDES, NAPE, BACK, WINGS, AND TAIL. GIVE PARTICULAR EMPHASIS TO MARKS YOU USED TO IDENTIFY THE BIRD(S). DESCRIBE OTHER DETAILS, SUCH AS COLOR AND SHAPE OF BILL, LEGS, EYE, ETC. THAT WERE IMPORTANT IN MAKING THE IDENTIFICATION. (FILL OUT THIS PORTION EVEN IF PHOTOGRAPHS ARE SUBMITTED; YOU MAY ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS, DRAWINGS, FIELD SKETCHES, OR COPY OF FIELD NOTES):

THE BIRD WAS A MEDIUM SIZED WATER FOWL, THAT SAT RELATIVELY LOW IN THE WATER.

THE BIRD WAS BEST DESCRIBED AS ENTIRELY SHINY VELVET BLACK THROUGHOUT.

- BILL WAS TWO TONE - LARGE BULBOS, ORANGE BASE AND A SMALLER BLACK TIP.

EYES - BLACK

LEGS - NOT SEEN.

FOREHEAD HAD A VERTICAL DROP TO THE ORANGE BILL BASE; HEAD WAS ROUNDED. TAIL FEATHERS WERE SHORT STIFF & HELD ABOUT 1" ABOVE THE WATER & HORIZONTAL.



DISCUSS SIMILAR SPECIES AND HOW YOU ELIMINATED THEM:

WHITE WINGED SCOTER - ♂ - WHITE EYE PATCHES - sloping forehead to bill with feathers onto bill  
♀ - FACIAL SPOTS - sloping forehead  
Surf. Scoter - ♂ - BILL SHAPE - WHITE HEAD MARKINGS  
♀ - BROWNISH color, FACIAL MARKING & forehead slope

WHAT IS YOUR PRIOR EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND SIMILARLY APPEARING SPECIES?

LIMITED. FEW COLORADO OBSERVATION of white wing & ♀ BLACK

LIST BOOKS, GUIDES, RECORDINGS, OR OTHER SOURCES CONSULTED AND HOW THIS INFLUENCED YOUR IDENTIFICATION (DURING AND AFTER OBSERVATION):

NAT. GEO BIRD of N.A. 2<sup>nd</sup> EDITION for scientific NAME only

THIS REPORT WAS MADE FROM <sup>TYPED</sup>NOTES MADE DURING ☒ OR AFTER ☐  
OBSERVATION, OR LATER FROM MEMORY ☐.

DATE OF WRITTEN REPORT: 10-18-98

REPORTING OBSERVER: Ric Olson SIGNATURE ROL

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