

DOCUMENTATION OF RARE BIRD SIGHTINGS
FOR
THE COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS' RECORDS

A

Species: Eurasian Wigeon ; Anas penelope
(Vernacular name) (Scientific name)

If you watch birds solely for your own enjoyment, a written description of your observations is unnecessary. But, if you have seen something unusual, and would like to share this with others, a written description is essential. Compilers of regional bird lists must insist that their records be scientifically sound; future bird students -- those studying occurrences 50 years from now -- must have a written record on which to depend. By providing the verifying written description, you are employing a basic rule of the scientific method.

We recognize that experienced field observers can provide important and reliable records, if supported by an adequate verifying description. Thus this request is an effort to perpetuate your record by obtaining concrete evidence which may be permanently preserved for examination by others in the future. This procedure is required for every extraordinary observation, irrespective of the observer.

Dates (s): 4/10/83 Time Bird Seen: 3:00 pm to 3:30 pm (not exact)

Locality: CF&I Ponds (lower pond) Pueblo, Colorado

Nearest town, county and state:

Optical equipment: Bushnell Spacemaster II Spotting Scope - Zoom 15-45x Lens
could identify with binoculars 9X30 Nikon
If photographed, please enclose copy. Equipment used: _____

Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: ♂ Plumage: Breeding

Light conditions: excellent - light (sun) behind us and mid after noon

Distance from bird, and how measured: ~ 200 yds (2 football fields)

Describe the bird's overall behavior:

No unusual behavior, swimming away from Am. Wigeon towards Redhead

Describe the habitat in which you observed the bird:

Seen near middle of lower lake with 5 Am. Wigeon and a nearby Redhead for comparison

Other observers who independently identified this bird (Please list name and address):

Jim Watts P.O. Box 505 Pease CO 81240

APPENDIX II Continued

Describe in great detail the bird which you saw. Emphasize particularly the field marks used to identify the bird, but include a complete description of the bird. Include size, overall shape, plumage and color pattern; details on shape or size of bill, wings, and tail. (Reference to its resemblance to field guide descriptions is not enough). Describe what you actually saw in the field.

This was a Wigeon with a red head and buffy gold forehead & crown. Gray back and sides made a fine contrast with the red head. Breast, as pink-grayish different than breast of Am. Wigeon.

Describe the bird's calls or sounds, if heard; including method of delivery-- i.e., from perch, in flight, etc.:

no sounds or calls made

List similar species and how you eliminated them:

Redhead - no black on throat ^{as great} of my bird's

Common Pochard - no black on throat ^{and breast} of my duck

Am. Wigeon - ♂'s have green ear patch, my bird had a red head

♂'s have brownish back and sides, my bird had side wall gray back & sides

Prior experience with this and similar species:

♀ (with red head, as in Armstrong's Field Guide to Alaskan Birds)

Nisqually NWR Sept. 12, 1982

This report was written from notes made during after _____ observation;
from memory _____.

Name (print) : William R Maynard

Mailing address: 372 Blue Windsor Ln. Colo. Spgs, 80906

Signature: William R Maynard

Return Form To:

CFO Records Committee
c/o Curator - Dept. of Zoological Collections
Denver Museum of Natural History
City Park
Denver, CO 80205

APPENDIX II

DOCUMENTATION OF RARE BIRD SIGHTINGS
FOR
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Species: Eurasian Wigeon ; Mareca penelope
(Vernacular name) (Scientific name)

If you watch birds solely for your own enjoyment, a written description of your observations is unnecessary. But, if you have seen something unusual, and would like to share this with others, a written description is essential. Compilers of regional bird lists must insist that their records be scientifically sound; future bird students -- those studying occurrences 50 years from now -- must have a written record on which to depend. By providing the verifying written description, you are employing a basic rule of the scientific method.

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Dates (s): April 11, 1983 Time Bird Seen: 3:30 pm to 4:00 pm (approx)Locality: C.F. & I. Ponds a.k.a. Fine Feather Club
Pueblo, Pueblo Co., COLORADO
Nearest town, county and state:Optical equipment: 45X60 bushnell scope

If photographed, please enclose copy. Equipment used: _____

Number of birds seen: (1) Sex: ♂ Plumage: — adultLight conditions: Good afternoon light, Sun to our back, mod. windDistance from bird, and how measured: est. 200 metersDescribe the bird's overall behavior: swimming in raft of other ducks, not actively feeding.

Describe the habitat in which you observed the bird:

large Pond or small Lake

Other observers who independently identified this bird (Please list name and address):

Bill Maynard926 Cheyenne Blvd.C.S. Co.

APPENDIX II Continued

Describe in great detail the bird which you saw. Emphasize particularly the field marks used to identify the bird, but include a complete description of the bird. Include size, overall shape, plumage and color pattern; details on shape or size of bill, wings, and tail. (Reference to its resemblance to field guide descriptions is not enough). Describe what you actually saw in the field.

Discovered Bird while scanning small rafts of mixed ducks, saw two wigeons, one with green head, one with red head. Sides of head iridescent red, median "stripe" appeared white or gold depending on angle of sunlight. Breast somewhat buffy, sides gray & white

Describe the bird's calls or sounds, if heard; including method of delivery--i.e., from perch, in flight, etc.:

NA

List similar species and how you eliminated them:

American wigeon: Birds viewed together, same size but heads obviously different color, extensive red on sides of head

Red head: Also viewed with bird, head color very similar but wigeon had whitish median stripe (wide) & buffy breast

Prior experience with this and similar species:

First sighting this species

observed many Am. wigeons & redheads

This report was written from notes made during after observation; from memory ✓ .

Bird seen today

Name (print) : Jim Watts

Mailing address: P.O. Box 505 Penrose, Co. 81240

Signature: Jim E. Watts

Return Form To:

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c/o Curator - Dept. of Zoological Collections
Denver Museum of Natural History
City Park
Denver, CO 80205

APPENDIX II

8-83-12

DOCUMENTATION OF RARE BIRD SIGHTINGS
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A

Species: Anas
Eurasian wigeon ; Mareca penelope
(Vernacular name) (Scientific name)

If you watch birds solely for your own enjoyment, a written description of your observations is unnecessary. But, if you have seen something unusual, and would like to share this with others, a written description is essential. Compilers of regional bird lists must insist that their records be scientifically sound; future bird students -- those studying occurrences 50 years from now -- must have a written record on which to depend. By providing the verifying written description, you are employing a basic rule of the scientific method.

We recognize that experienced field observers can provide important and reliable records, if supported by an adequate verifying description. Thus this request is an effort to perpetuate your record by obtaining concrete evidence which may be permanently preserved for examination by others in the future. This procedure is required for every extraordinary observation, irrespective of the observer.

Dates (s): April 13, 1983 Time Bird Seen: 3⁵⁵ PM to 4¹⁵ PM

Locality: Minnequa Lake
Pueblo, Pueblo County, Colorado
Nearest town, county and state:

Optical equipment: spotting scope 30 X 40

If photographed, please enclose copy. Equipment used: N/A

Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: ♂ Plumage: adult

Light conditions: cloudy with intermittent sun at back

Distance from bird, and how measured: 200-250 yards (est)

Describe the bird's overall behavior: calm, moving head about occasionally, appeared to be "mapping" at times

Describe the habitat in which you observed the bird:
on rough water in open area (i.e. not near reeds or cattails). ♂ Am. wigeon only other close bird in area.

Other observers who independently identified this bird (Please list name and address):

Jim Watts PO Box 305 Perouse Colo 81240

APPENDIX II Continued

Describe in great detail the bird which you saw. Emphasize particularly the field marks used to identify the bird, but include a complete description of the bird. Include size, overall shape, plumage and color pattern; details on shape or size of bill, wings, and tail. (Reference to its resemblance to field guide descriptions is not enough). Describe what you actually saw in the field.

Wigeon-sized bird (next to 1 ♂ American wigeon) with reddish head. When sunlight would hit the bird, its median crown stripe was a beautiful buffy-gold color. Bill light-colored, breast reddish, sides gray & white. When waves would lift bird "up" particularly high, able to see white belly below reddish breast.

Describe the bird's calls or sounds, if heard; including method of delivery-- i.e., from perch, in flight, etc.:

N/A

List similar species and how you eliminated them:

American wigeon - with one ♂ as stated. Am. wigeon had white head & red sides, redhead - black breast & NO CROWN STRIPES

Prior experience with this and similar species:

1st Eurasian wigeon; Am. wigeon & redheads seen frequently.

This report was written from notes made during _____ after observation; from memory _____.

Name (print) : ROSIE WATTS

Mailing address: PO BOX 505 PENROSE, COLORADO 81240

Signature: _____

Return Form To:

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c/o Curator - Dept. of Zoological Collections
Denver Museum of Natural History
City Park
Denver, CO 80205