

1998-20

PROB. SAMEAS 1997-15

ACCEPTED 7-0

CFO-ORC FILE # _____

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD UNUSUAL RECORD

Please print or type. Attach photographs and additional pages if necessary.

Species: Eurasian wigeon (Vernacular Name) | Anas penelope (Scientific Name)

Date(s): 19 Oct 1997 → 15 Feb 1998

Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: male Plumage: Eclipse to basic

Locality: Fort Collins Elevation: 5000'

Nearest town: Fort Collins County: Lincoln

Time(s) observed: _____

Duration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): _____

Other observers who saw the bird with you (give names, addresses, telephone numbers):
Bill Lesovsky, Joe Wanner, David Ely, mos

Other observers who saw the bird independently (give names, addresses, telephone numbers):
mos

Light conditions (position of bird to light and shade, direction and strength of light):
NOVATIONS

Optical equipment used (e.g. power, types): binocs & scope

Distance, and how measured: 100 yards to as close as 20 yards

If photographed, type of equipment and film: None

Who else photographed the bird? _____

Describe the bird's behavior (e.g. flying, feeding, or habits used in identifying):

Usually feeding with American wigeons (or greys) or in water with them. Very wary during eclipse period (after flew to above) or fed alone in ponds.

Describe in detail the bird's relative size, overall shape, plumage and color pattern. Include details of bill, wing and tail shape. Give particular emphasis to marks you used to identify the bird. Reference to its resemblance to field guide descriptions and illustrations is not enough. Describe only what you actually observe in the field:

From mid-Oct to early '98. This bird was in eclipse plumage. When first seen in Oct (1997) the bird appeared like a dark female, except the head was rusty (slightly darker than flanks). Rusty flanks quite dark and rich chestnut. Mottled gray on back. Head more rounded than other American wigeons. White patch appeared in certain postures anterior to speculum (this indicated a male, despite its overall appearance).

Description (continued):

Began to acquire reddish head of typical adult ♂ plumage by late Dec. Breast also started to get pink by late Dec. On 20 Dec Christmas card it was clearly a male European wigeon, but lots of gray mottling in breast & rusty brown of head. Some of this mottling retained thru mid-Feb. By Feb the flanks were gray back all gray, tail black, crown yellow, head mostly color of red-head duck.

Describe the bird's song and call, if given, including method of delivery, (i.e. from perch, in flight, duration):
"seeeee-o" seemed more hollow (thin) & perhaps a little higher pitched than Am wigeons

Describe the general and specific habitat in which you observed the bird:

gravel ponds, ditch, grassy park

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?

(see above)

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species?

This bird (or one of its species) have been present at this site for at least past 4 years. I've seen 1000's of Am wigeons. I've experience @ eclipse list books, illustrations, recordings, other birders, etc. consulted and how this influenced your identification:
♂ Eur. wigeon

a) at time of observation:

waterfowl by widgeon ♀ Burn

b) after observation:

This report was written from reports made during X, after observation X from memory X
Date and time report was written:

Reporting observer: David Leatherer Signature: David Leatherer

Address: 612 Stover St #7 Fort Collins CO 80524

All reports will be maintained permanently at the address below:
Return to:

Bill Prather
13810 WCR 1
Longmont, CO 80504
303-776-2181

1998-20

ACCEPTED 7-0

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS
Sight Record Form

Species: Eurasian wigeon

Scientific Name: *Anas penelope*

Date of Occurrence: 14 December 1998

Number of Birds Seen: 1

Sex: Male

Plumage: Approaching adult breeding plumage with a few traces of eclipse plumage remaining.

Location: Edora Park in Fort Collins, Larimer Co., Colorado. Specifically the bird was along Spring Creek which runs west to east through the park. It is an urban park dominated by bluegrass lawns and softball diamonds. These open areas seem to attract feeding flocks of American wigeons and for the past few years, at least one male Eurasian wigeon. The park is located between Prospect Ave. on the north and Stuart St. on the south and Riverside on the east and Welch Ave. on the west.

Elevation: Approximately 5,000 feet.

Habitat: Spring Creek bisects the park and is narrow, shallow and silt-bottomed. It never completely freezes. The creek is surrounded by a few ornamental trees and expanses of bluegrass lawn and softball fields. See the location description also.

Time of Observation: 0930

Length of Observation: Continuously for about 5 minutes.

Other Observers: I observed the bird independently, but immediately notified Joe Mammoser and the Colorado Rare Bird Alert. I assume there will be a few other observers at later times.

Light Conditions: The viewing conditions were good. The sun was not yet too high and there was no glare on the water. There were no clouds. I was looking to the east-northeast and the sun was to the south of me.

Optical Equipment Used: Minolta 10 x 45 binoculars.

Distance from the Bird: 35 to 45 yards.

Photography: None

Describe the Bird's Behavior: The bird was mingling with approximately 60 American wigeons and swimming actively in Spring Creek. The wigeon were alert and I think eager to fly to the big lawns and feed. They seemed to be waiting for several dogs that were running off-leash in the park to leave.

Description of the Bird: The bird had a chestnut-colored head with a small golden-yellow patch of feathering on the center of the forehead above the blue bill. It did not extend onto the crown, but stopped just above the eye. The eye area had some dark mottling but it was not very extensive and was somewhat

difficult to detect. An abrupt line of demarcation separated the chestnut head and neck from the pinkish breast. The body was grayish with a few spots of reddish coloration at the top and rear of the flanks. I believe these were remnants of the eclipse plumage. The white wing coverts were obvious on the resting bird. The scapulars were gray. The flank was separated from the ventral region by a white patch. The vent and uppertail coverts were mostly black but retained a few white feather edgings from eclipse plumage.

Elimination of Similar Species: Elimination of similar species was pretty straightforward. The chestnut head with gold-yellow forehead patch eliminates American wigeon, as do the pinkish breast and gray sides. The blue bill with a black tip eliminates green-winged teal as do the aforementioned characters. It was also larger than a teal. No other species have the combination of chestnut head, pinkish breast, gray sides, black and white ventral region, and the gold-yellow forehead/crown patch.

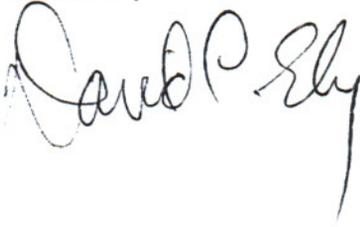
Prior experience with this and similar species: I have seen several male Eurasian wigeons at this location over the last several years. One year there were two male Eurasian wigeons here. I have seen them at other locations in Fort Collins as well. I saw another male Eurasian wigeon at Hiram Prince Res. north of Lafayette in 1992 and one west of Brighton in 1994. I have lots of experience with American wigeons, teal and other ducks throughout the western United States.

References Consulted at the Time of Observation: None

References Consulted after Observation: Waterfowl 1988. Madge and Burn.

This report was written between 1000 and 1110 on 14 December 1998. It was completed within 2 hours of the observation of the bird. It was done from memory. No field notes were taken.

David C. Ely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David C. Ely". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name.

(Vernacular Name)

(Scientific Name) ¹⁹⁹⁸⁻²⁰ *rec'd 3-98*

EURASIAN Widgeon

ANAS PERILOPE

DATE OF OBSERVATION	TIME OF OBSERVATION	NUMBER OF BIRDS SEEN	SEX	PLUMAGE
7-10-98	0905 TO 0920	ONE	MALE	BREEDING
	TO			
	TO			

LOCALITY: Edora Lake Park Ft. Collins

ELEVATION: 5000' COUNTY: Larimer

OTHER OBSERVERS WHO INDEPENDENTLY IDENTIFIED THE BIRD (Names, Addresses, Telephone Number)

DAVE Quisenberry 6254 S EMIRA CIR Englewood CO 80111 3037967603

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT: Ziess 10x40 Kowa ~~TSW-4~~ 20-60

WEATHER CONDITIONS: Partly cloudy cold 10° N winter 15-25 mph

BIRD/SUN ORIENTATION: SUN AT OBSERVERS BACK

DISTANCE FROM BIRD AND HOW MEASURED: 30 feet guess

BEHAVIOR AND DEMEANOR: BIRD WAS RESTING ON shore of REMNANT edora Lake Among Am. Widgeons. Bird swam upriver AS we APPROACHED and then AGAIN RESTED AS we LEFT.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION (EMPHASIS ON KEY FIELD MARKS): Relative size and shape; plumage and color pattern of head, upperparts and underparts; shape and color of bill, wings, tail, feet and legs; eye color.

The bird was of similar size to Am. Widgeons.

Head - bill -> tip black blue Rest of way to base; crown Cream color extending to back of head. Face brownish red to base of NECK EYES - dark
back - gray

Flanks - mainly gray - terminated with white.

Breast - brownish red - noticeably paler than HEAD

Tail & coverts - dark.

Leg - NOT SEEN

open wings & speculum NOT SEEN.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION (continued):

HABITAT: URBAN RIVER / LAKE

VOCALIZATION (call/song; how delivered-perched, in flight; frequency; duration):
NONE HEARD - HEARD NUMEROUS Am Widgeon CALLS

ELIMINATION OF SIMILARLY APPEARING SPECIES:
Am. WIDGEON - - gray head (often with green eye stripe ♂)
- Flanks brownish red

PRIOR EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND SIMILARLY APPEARING SPECIES:
I have seen only two other male Eurasian Widgeons
but 1000's of Am WIDGEONS male / female / IMMATURES

BOOKS, ILLUSTRATIONS AND ADVICE CONSULTED THAT INFLUENCED THIS REPORT:
NA Birds Nat Geo 2nd Ed

THIS REPORT WAS WRITTEN FROM NOTES MADE DURING AFTER OBSERVATION; FROM MEMORY X

NAME: Ric Olson SIGNATURE: RO2 DATE: 3-10-98

9450 N HEATHER DR
C RIVER CO 80104
303 7907753

1998-20

DOCUMENTATION FORM

Species: Eurasian Wigeon

Number: 1 male

Location: Edora Park, Fort Collins, Larimer Co., CO

Habitat: ~~S~~hallow creek

Date: 24 January 1998

Time: 1:05-1:20 p.m.

Observer: Stephen J. Dinsmore 612 ½ West Magnolia St. Fort Collins, CO 80521

Others who saw bird(s): m.ob.

Description of bird(s): The bird was with a small flock of American Wigeon feeding in the small creek. Size and shape were similar to those of an American Wigeon. The bill was very short and stubby and bluish-gray with a black tip. The head was red with a cream-colored forehead and crown. Other features noted included the gray sides, mantle, and scapulars, black vent, dull reddish-brown breast, and white belly. There were some dark flecks on the breast, indicating the bird had not completed the molt to alternate plumage. I saw no indication that the bird had a captive origin, e.g. no bands or unusually tame behavior.

Similar species and how eliminated: American Wigeon is the only similar duck and was separated on the basis of the head pattern and color of the mantle and sides.

Previous experience with species: I have seen numerous Eurasian Wigeon in Massachusetts, North Carolina, and California, plus singles in Iowa and Colorado.

Viewing conditions and equipment: Viewing conditions were excellent with the sun behind me. Estimated viewing distance was 50 feet. I used 10x42 binoculars.

References consulted: none

How long before field notes written? none written

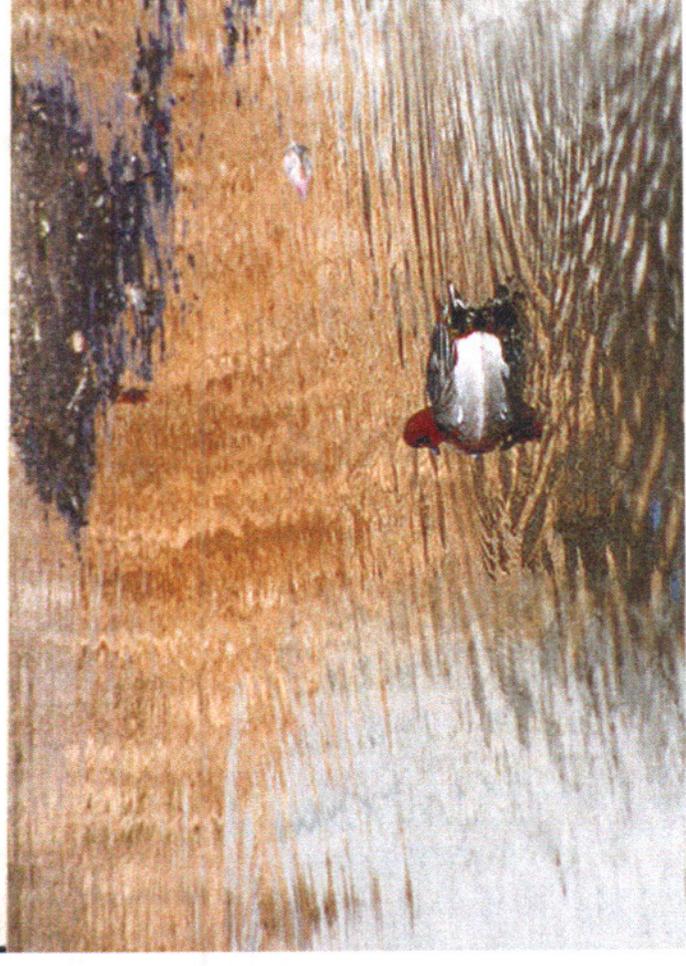
How long before this form completed? written 24 January 1998

These three shots were taken at Edova Park, Fe. Collins,
on January 10, 1999

1998-20

Eurasian Wigeon (male)
(*Anas penelope*)

PCD 1/10/99



This shot was taken at Edova park, Fe
Collins, on January 9, 1999