

## RADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

8-88-6

A

NEW STATE RECORD ☐UNUSUAL RECORD ☒

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

Species: Black Scoter (Vernacular Name) ~~1~~ Melanitta nigra (Scientific Name)Date(s): 11/13/87Number of birds seen: 3 Sex: females Plumage: winterLocality: HAMILTON RESERVOIR - RAWHIDE POWER PLANT Elevation: unknownNearest town: Fort Collins County: LarimerTime(s) observed: 8:30 to 9:15Duration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): 45 minutes (off and on)

Other observers who saw the bird with you (give names, addresses, telephone numbers):

Joe Himmel (41st Greeley, Co. 80632 (303-352-0288))

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

~~Jack~~ JACK Reddall Englewood, Colorado

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

Sun was out (good light) at our backsOptical equipment used (e.g. power, types): 20 to 40 X Spotting ScopeDistance, and how measured: 50 to 400 YARDSIf photographed, type of equipment and film: —Who else photographed the bird? —

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

Diving for food, swimming about.

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:

Typical Scoter shape. <sup>Dark</sup> Brown body, dark bill with pale whitish cheeks. The cheeks contrasted with the dark brown crown on the bird and nape.





- AS you can see I can't draw -

Describe the bird's song and call, if given, including method of delivery, (i.e. from perch, in flight, duration):

NONE

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

OPEN RESERVOIR

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?

Other Scoters quite different

Ruddy Duck - Different shape, smaller bird.

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

I've seen about 5 Black Scoters on the Great Lakes.

Ruddy Ducks by the thousands.

List books, illustrations, recordings, other birders, etc. consulted and how this influenced your identification:

a) at time of observation: <sup>Geographic</sup> Field Guide to the Birds

b) after observation:

NONE

This report was written from reports made during ☒ after observation ☐ from me  
Date and time report was written: November 19, 1987

Reporting observer: Jerry Cairo Signature: Jerry Cairo

Address: 2621 23<sup>rd</sup> Ave #36 Greeley, Co 80631

All reports will be maintained permanently at the address below:

Return to:

CURATOR, DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS  
DENVER MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY  
CITY PARK  
DENVER, CO 80205