

IDAHO BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE  
RARE BIRD REPORT FORM

SPECIES:

American Black Duck (4-B-94)

REPORTER:

Chuck Trost  
225 N. Lincoln Ave.  
Pocatello, ID 83204  
208-233-4538  
trostchuck@cableone.net

OTHER OBSERVERS:

Ron Lynch (208-678-3184)  
Jason Lynch (208-677-4511-h, 208-678-8368-w)

DATE REPORT PREPARED:

May 9, 2006

DATE SIGHTING OCCURRED:

April 13, 1994

LOCALITY OF OBSERVATION:

About two miles east of Burley, Idaho on an irrigation ditch

HABITAT:

Pasture, ditch with running water

CONDITIONS:

Clear, calm, warm (60F, Zeiss 10X42 binoculars and a 78mm Kowa scope, seen from about 30-50meters with the sun behind us.

DID YOU TAKE NOTES?:

Yes, during the observation

DID YOU CONSULT FIELD GUIDE OR OTHER REFERENCES?:

Yes, during the observation

WHAT GUIDE(S) OR REFERENCE(S) DID YOU CONSULT?:

Peterson's Western and NGS Guides.

DESCRIPTION:

A dark duck with red legs and feet, no bands, dark body, no white by the blue speculum on the

wings, silver under wing linings when it flew, and tan head. The bill was a greenish-yellow, in contrast to the yellow bills shown in both guides.

BEHAVIOR:

It was standing and flying with a female mallard. Flight appeared normal, and the bird was quite wild.

HOW AND WHEN DID YOU POSITIVELY IDENTIFY THE BIRD, AND WHAT CLINCHED THE IDENTIFICATION FOR YOU?

The bird had been seen by Jason and Ron on 4-10-94. They had called me, and I was there to confirm their identification. The red legs, dark body, and solid blue speculum clinched it for me.

HOW DID YOU ELIMINATE SIMILAR SPECIES, AND WHAT WERE THEY?

A female Mallard has white on each side of its speculum, and is much lighter brown. It was obviously a dabbling duck, and there was no further confusion.

EXPERIENCE WITH THIS SPECIES (AND SIMILAR SPECIES):

I knew this species as a kid in Pennsylvania

GENERAL BIRDING EXPERIENCE:

extensive

WERE PHOTO(S), VIDEO, AND/OR AUDIO OBTAINED BY YOU?:

None