

Species: red throated loon  
(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.

Date (s): April 4 1981 Time Bird Seen: 9<sup>30</sup> to \_\_\_\_\_

Locality: Bear River Bird Refuge

Nearest town, county and state: \_\_\_\_\_

Optical equipment: Bushnell 10X

If photographed, please enclose copy. Equipment used: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: M Plumage: tawny red throat

Light conditions: good

Distance from bird, and how measured: estimated 100'

Describe the bird's overall behavior:

identified from Peterson's  
Fieldguide - CK.  
Erickson has seen  
same bird in Alaska.

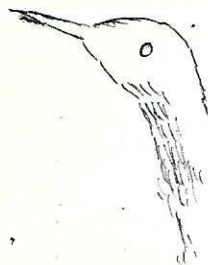
Describe the habitat in which you observed the bird:

stream fl lined by rushes.

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

Boyd C and Constance K. Erickson 749 W Sunny Ln  
Orem

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.



Swamp loon in water

lighter back than  
Common loon -  
mottled

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

None -

List similar species and how you eliminated them:

bigger than merganser - ~~no white beak~~ wrong colors -  
nothing else really looks like loon - this had tawny  
red throat and lighter back than common loon.

Prior experience with this and similar species:

Seen in Alaska.

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

NAME (print): Boyd C. and Constance K. Erickson

Mailing address: 749 W. Seaway Lane Orem

Signature: Constance K. Erickson

Return to:

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