

VERIFICATION OF UNUSUAL SIGHT RECORD FOR UTAH

Common Name: Eurasian Widgeon Scientific Name: Anas penelope

Date: 3/30/86 Time: 0830 Length of time observed: 20 min.s

Number: one Age: adult Sex: male

Location: Atherly (Faust) Reservoir, 5 miles north of Vernon, UT along Highway 36.

Latilong: 5 Elevation (if known):

Distance to bird: 25 yards Light conditions: Good, clear sun behind observers

Optical equipment: Bushnell 20X spotting scope.

Weather: Clear and warm 0 wind Approx. 55-60 F

Description: (Write a detailed description of the bird's appearance, including size, shape, plumage pattern, color, and any unique features.)

About the same size and shape as the nearby american widgeons. Had a blue bill, rufous head and neck, whitish crown which was broader about the bill and narrower as it went up to the top of the head, gray sides and back. Black rear-end with white between the black rear-end and the gray sides. White and green speculum when it flew.

Voice or call notes and method of delivery: none

Behavior: Associated with a loose group of american widgeon but didn't appear to be paired with any other bird.

Habitat: a small earthen dam reservoir, approx. 20-40 acres in size. In open waters.

What similar species might it have been and how were these eliminated:

american wigeon - when compared directly with the nearby american widgeon, the american widgeon had gray on the side of the head (with green) and a white crown that narrowed at the base of the bill and gray-brown back and sides

redhead- has black chest and no white crown.

What experience have you had with this and similar species:

We have no experience with the eurasian widgeon but have seen american widgeon and redhead many times.

Books, illustrations, and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description:

Ella Soresen told us of having seen the bird at the same location on the day before. We use the Nat. Geographic field guide as a reference.

Significance of record in this area or the state:

Considered casual in Utah with several observations, a photograph and specimen. It has been seen at this time of year in Northern Utah.

Additional material: (attach drawing, photograph, tape recording if available)


None

Description from notes taken at time of sighting xx notes made later      from memory     

Observer: Clyde A. Morris Joelle Buffa

Signature:

Address: 658E. 1700 S. Apt.B  
Salt Lake City, UT 84105

  
K for Joelle Buffa

Other observers who independently identified this bird:

Richard and Ella Sorensen, JOe Liegh

Date prepared: 4/7/86

Return this form to: Ella Sorensen  
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West Valley City, Utah 84120