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Lat/long _____ Reporter _____ Sci Name _____
Habitat _____ Record type _____ Serial No. JAN 31 1982 1982-003
Date/time _____ Disposition _____ Cx Nos. _____

Common Name Oldsquaw
Race/Sub-species Clangula hyemalis
Sight date 01/30/82 time 1100 MST duration 10 mins.

Distance from bird 100-300 meters (estimated)

Light conditions good, overcast sky

Optical equip. 48x50 Bushnell Sentry II scope

Photo. equip. None

Number of this species seen 2

Notes made at time of sighting ☐ Date this report was prepared.

Notes made later from memory ☐

Photo available ☐ Photo enclosed ☐ 01/31/82

Weather at time of this observation.

75 per cent overcast; 34°F;
wind S at 5-7 mph; water open

Prior weather & number of days since change

A weak low pressure trough had passed the previous night. Last "major" storm 4 days earlier on 26/27th.

Locality

Boat harbor at Antelope Island in Great Salt Lake State Park, Davis County, Utah. About 9.3 miles WSW of Syracuse USPO.

Male <input type="checkbox"/>	Adult <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Age unk. <input type="checkbox"/>	Basic Plumage <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Light Phase <input type="checkbox"/>
Female <input type="checkbox"/>	Subadult <input type="checkbox"/>	♀ or Imm <input type="checkbox"/>	Breeding <input type="checkbox"/>	Dark Phase <input type="checkbox"/>
Sex Unk. <input type="checkbox"/>	Juv/Imm <input type="checkbox"/>	2/3 year bird <input type="checkbox"/>	Eclipse/Winter <input type="checkbox"/>	Molting <input type="checkbox"/>

Description of bird. Size, Colors, all field marks OBSERVED -Unique features of this bird, if any.

Two birds of slender duck shape were seen which reminded me somewhat of small pintails. The birds were near some common goldeneyes and appeared to be sligher and a little smaller. In general, both birds were quite light, exhibiting a great deal of white in their plumage. Ventrally both were white and the neck and head were generally white on both. The bills of both birds were generally gray but appeared to have an orange wash; profile bill shape was rounder than that of most ducks.

Plumage details show one bird to be male and the other female. The alleged male bird had a white forehead, crown and nape, with a dark back and a sort of star-like white pattern on the folded wings. The facial markings included a gray, oval-shaped auricular patch with a small darker oval patch inside the larger patch at its rear. This bird did not have the longer tail feathers of this plumage.

The alleged female bird had a dingy gray crown and nape and a much simpler gray auricular patch which appeared to blend in with the nape gray area. The bird was dingier appearing on the back than the male and did not have significant markings on its folded wings.

marks which were not seen. Why not?
Person and Robbins indicate three field marks which I did not see:

- (1) the "needle-like" tail of the male.
- (2) the contrast of all dark wings to white body (birds did not fly).
- (3) the dark breast of the male bird.

Variations from expected field marks.
No variation seen.

List similar species and describe why or how you eliminated them.

To my knowledge the only similar species are pintail (dark head markings on white neck), and bufflehead, scaups, hooded merganser (extensive white on body). The white crown and the facial patterning eliminates pintail, scaup and goldeneyes while the white crown and flanks eliminates the merganser.

Behavior of this bird. Include names of other birds with this one and any interaction.
Birds were swimming together in the harbor nearby but not associating with a small flock of common goldeneye. Birds swimming was steady and even. They swam towards the outlet of the harbor to the Great Salt Lake.

Habitat this location and near by or adjacent habitat if significant.

Protected salt water harbor adjacent to large bodies of both fresh and salt water in the Great Salt Lake. Landward, Antelope Island is sagebrush community.

Describe birds song or sounds it made during this observation.
Birds were silent during observation.

Names of other observers. A/C + phone

What is your experience with this or similar birds?

I feel myself to be generally competent with the ducks. I have seen basic (winter) plumage oldsquaw on several occasions in Utah and California.

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