VERIFICATION OF UNUSUAL SIGHT RECORD FOR UTAH

Common Name: White-winged Scoter   Scientific Name: Melanitta fusca

Date: November 15, 1985   Time: 2:PM   Length of time observed: 5 minutes

Number: 3   Age: Sex:

Location: Farmington Bay

Latilong: Elevation (if known):

Distance to bird: 200 feet   Light conditions: good

Optical equipment: 15X60 scope

Weather: calm

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

The three birds were similiar and fit the following description

    Dark brown plumage overall except for a white speculum seen
        as a small patch when the birds were swiming and seen
        much better when the birds either flapped their wings
        or flew
    Large bill with feathering down almost to the nostril
    Two white spots on the head one in front of the eye the other
        the other behind the eye

Voice or call notes and method of delivery:

Behavior:

    Swimming and diving in the water

Habitat: water habitat

What similar species might it have been and how were these eliminated:
        Surf Scoters were eliminated by the white speculum, the lack
        of a dark crown adn the feathering on the ~~nostril~~ bill which
        came down to the nostril

What experience have you had with this and similar species:

        I am familiar with all three scoters

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

Significance of record in this area or the state:

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

Description from notes taken at time of sighting____ notes made later X from memory____

Observer: Ella Sorensen   Signature:
             3868 Marsha Drive
             West Valley City, Ut
Address: 84120

Other observers who independently identified this bird:

Date prepared:

Return this form to: Ella Sorensen
                        3868 Marsha Drive
                        West Valley City, Utah 84120