

## VERIFICATION OF UNUSUAL SIGHT RECORD FOR UTAH

Common Name: Harlequin Duck Scientific Name: *Histrionicus histrionicus*

Date: Nov. 1, 1991 Time: 8:45 am Length of time observed: 12 min.

Number: 1 Age: Sex: ♀

Location: Farmington Bay, Davis Co. Utah - East of Westernmost dike at South End

Lat/long: Elevation (if known): 4208 ft

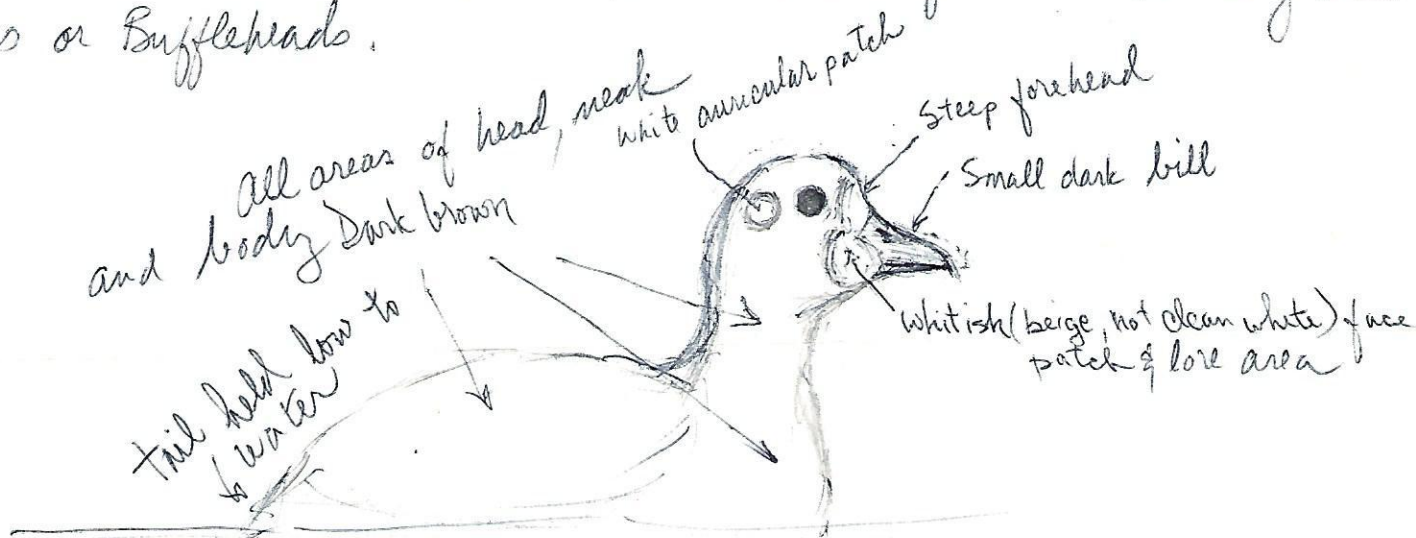
Distance to bird: 30 ft. Light conditions: excellent

Optical equipment: 10x50 Binos

Weather: cold / cloudy

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

Small brown, square-headed duck with a roundish white spot in the auricular area. Whitish mask extended from fore area to cheek area from eye to bill. Bill was small proportionately to head. All other areas on the duck were medium to dark brown. Bird did not flush as readily as Ruddies or Buffleheads.



Voice or call notes and method of delivery: None heard

Behavior: Calmly swimming near shore line - much less flighty than other waterfowl that it was with (Ruddy, Buffle heads, grebes, coots)

Habitat: Deep water near rocky dike

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

Buffle head - head much rounder, white spot on auriculars much larger with no face patch - white wing patch - contrast between upper & lower parts

Grebes - bill proportion much larger, more sloping head - larger, heavier bird overall face patch different shape and not as extensive

1st winter ♂ Goldeneyes - no auricular patch, head color contrasts with back, wing patches

♂ Scaups - different shape, no auricular patch, larger bill proportionately

winter ruddy - bill much larger, face patch in ♂ larger, face patch in ♀ divided horizontal dark capped appearance with contrast between upper & lower

What experience have you had with this and similar species:

Quite a lot of exp. with the similar species. I've seen Harlequin previously in Utah and Coastally.

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

Description taken at time of sighting

Significance of record in this area or the state:

11th documented?

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

possible photos

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


Observer: CRAIG L. KNEEDY

Signature:

Address: 314 S. 4500 W.

West Point, Utah

84615



Other observers who independently identified this bird:

Ella Sorensen, Terry Saddler, m. ob. from Salt Lake "Birders".

Date prepared:

11/7/91

Return this form to:

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