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Logan, UT. 84322-5210

Ella Sorensen  
3868 Marsha Drive  
West Valley City, UT.  
84120

December 2, 1992

Dear Mrs. Sorensen,

On the 19th of November, 1992, I shot a HY female black scoter while hunting on Lake Mantua in Mantua, Utah. I have been able to locate only two other documented black scoter sightings in the state of Utah. The bird was by itself when I first observed it; subsequent scanning of the lake revealed no other scoters. Later in the day, a large storm front moved through from the northwest, so I suspect this bird arrived on the leading edge of this front.

I have confirmed the identity of the bird with Mr. Peter Paton here at Utah State University. I have several unprocessed pictures of the bird which should be developed in the next couple of weeks. The duck has been donated to the Utah State collection. Please contact me if you need any further documentation or require a picture to confirm the bird's identity.

Sincerely,  
  
Daniel Vice

13-1992

Logan UT  
24 June 1996

Steven Hedges  
Cedar City, UT 84720

Dear Steve:

Earlier today I examined the Black Scoter specimen taken on Mantua Lake, Box Elder Co., Nov. 19, 1992 by Daniel Vice. I compared this ♀ skin to ♂ Black Scoter and ♀♀ of Surf and White-winged Scoters. The abruptly transverse ending of the crown feathering at the base of the bill contrasted to the forward pointing V of the other two species. The facial pattern and contour of the crown also were diagnostic of Black Scoter females. Thus, identity is confirmed.

Sincerely  
Keith Dixon

C.C. Ella Sorensen