

132-01-98

Rare and/or Unusual Bird Sighting Documentation Guide

SPECIES: Cinnamon Teal DATE SIGHTED: 9/21/98

SIZE, SHAPE, and PLUMAGE DESCRIPTION:

The bird was observed with 130 + Blue-winged Teal. It appeared larger, with a larger black bill. The coloration of the bird was more rusty brown than the light brown of the Blue-winged Teal. There was no line through the eye in the plumage, in fact, the plumage was more solid but the breast feathers had a different pattern than the other birds present. The eye was a burnt orange/red color.

Why is it not a Blue-winged Teal?

I have never observed Blue-winged Teal with a light colored eye. Their eyes are always brown. Both eyes of the bird were the same burnt orange/red color. The bird was also larger with a larger bill.

BEHAVIOR:

The bird was observed sleeping and swimming in a group of 130 other teal. It did not stretch its wings or dabble.

NUMBER, SEX, AGE:

1 bird, male, an adult in eclipse plumage

LOCATION:

The bird was seen on a small pond at the Curlsville strip mine site. The location is in Clarion County. It is approximately 2 miles northeast of Rimersburg. East of Rt. 68. The area is a reclaimed strip mine on the top of a ridge that is now a grassland with one small pond in a little dip.

CONDITIONS, TIME, WEATHER, OPTICS, EXPERIENCE:

The bird was seen first by myself at approximately 4:30 p.m. I observed the bird for about 15 minutes. The weather was sunny, with a little breeze. The temperature was about 70 degrees. When first seen, I was at a distance of 30 yards using my Kowa TSN-2 and my Leica 8 x 42 binoculars. I moved away slowly after seeing the bird and went to Sligo and called Margaret. Margaret arrived at about 6:00p.m. and we located the bird after about 5 minutes. We observed the bird for about 30 to 45 minutes. The bird was not that hard to pick out of a flock of 130+ teal. I have seen Cinnamon Teal out west. This is the first year out west that I have seen full eclipse males. The bird was just the same as those. I have seen an adult male in breeding plumage at Lake Arthur in Butler County.

ANY OTHER OBSERVERS? Margaret Buckwalter

John G. Fedak 221 Washington St.

New Bethlehem, PA 16242 (814)275-4086 jfedak~rbv.iu6.kl2.pa.us

The original write-up was on 9/22/98 from notes made on 9/21/98.

132 - a - 1998

P. birds

## SENECA ROCKS AUDUBON SOCIETY BIRD SIGHTING DOCUMENTATION GUIDE

This form is intended as a convenience in reporting observations of rare or unusual birds. It may be used flexibly and need not be used at all except as a guide. Attach additional sheets as necessary. PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE. The following checklist can be used to remind yourself of items that you want to include in this report. Not all of these points will be seen, nor are they all necessary to correctly identify a species, but not including something you saw lessens the value of your documentation. PLEASE REPORT WHAT WAS SEEN, NOT WHAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN SEEN.

### SIZE, SHAPE, AND PLUMAGE DESCRIPTION:

- Give size compared to a common bird  
 Shape ( warbler, thrush, hawk, etc.)  
 Head: colors and pattern  
 Eye: color, ring, stripe, lore, brow  
 Bill: length, color  
 Legs: color, length, toes (number, type)  
 Upperparts: nape (neck), back, rump  
 Tail: colors, shape, pattern, length  
 Underparts: throat, breast, belly, flanks, vent  
 Wings: colors, wingbars, length, wing linings, shape  
 Parts of bird that couldn't be seen

### BEHAVIOR:

- Posture  
 Feeding method  
 Flight pattern  
 Vocalization  
 Preening or sleeping  
 Other species present  
 Interactions with other birds  
 Nesting (building, brooding, etc.)

### NUMBER, SEX, AGE:

- Number of birds  
 Sex by plumage or behavior  
 Age by plumage or behavior

### LOCATION:

- Place name (town, park, SGL, etc.)  
 County and State  
 Habitat (field, woods, water, plants, etc.)

### CONDITIONS:

- Time of day  
 Temperature  
 Sky/cloud cover  
 Precipitation/snow cover  
 Water (depth, waves, % ice)  
 Wind (speed, direction)  
 Moon phase  
 Sun (location in relation to you and bird)  
 Length of sighting  
 Distance to bird  
 Optics (binos, scope, power of each)  
 Experience with this species, years birding  
 How were similar species eliminated?  
 Field guide used (during and after sighting)  
 Was description written from notes made during observation, notes made after observation, or memory? Was field guide used prior to writing field notes?  
 Other observers (are they reporting?)  
 Sketch or photograph (sketches, no matter how basic, are extremely useful)

SPECIES Cinnamon Teal DATE SIGHTED 9/21/98

### SIZE, SHAPE, AND PLUMAGE DESCRIPTION:

There were over 130 Blue-winged Teal all in eclipse plumage closely packed into the small pond. It was relatively easy with the binocs and scope to pick out the one that was "different." Compared to the Blue-wings it had rustier plumage overall, a longer <sup>bill</sup>, and was slightly larger. It had no eye line compared to the conspicuous ones on the others. Once, when it turned on the sun, I could see an orangish eye - not brown as the others had. The breast plumage was slightly different although it's hard to describe - possibly more dense markings.

BEHAVIOR: Swimming and preening with others. Did not see feet.

NUMBER, SEX, AND AGE: 1 male in eclipse plumage

LOCATION: Curllsville Strip mine pond. Just off UP Church Rd. in Toby Township or Township Rd. 441, South of Curllsville.

CONDITIONS, TIME, WEATHER, OPTICS, EXPERIENCE:

6 to 6:30 pm: Cloudy & sunny by turns; Optics - Bausch + Lomb Elites - 8X4. Scope - old Balscope at 30X, Experience - familiar with Cinnamon Teal from mt West not necessarily in eclipse plumage though. We were looking east with sun at our backs - 60-70 yards. We watched it for perhaps 1/2 hour - when we lost it, it was easy to pick out again because it was different. Description from field notes on the spot - I had used the field guide before writing the field notes. Stokes & "Nat'l Geographic" field guides.

NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER, DATE OF WRITE-UP:

Margaret Buckwalter

RD 2 Box 26

Shippenville PA 16254

Sept. 22, 1998

John Fedak called me at 5:30 pm to come & see the ducks.

**Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee**

**Voting Tabulation - Round One**

Species: Cinnamon Teal (*Anas cyanoptera*)

Date of Sighting: 21 September 1998 to 21 September 1998

Location: CURLSVILLE

County: CLARION

Observer(s): John Fedak, Margaret Buckwalter

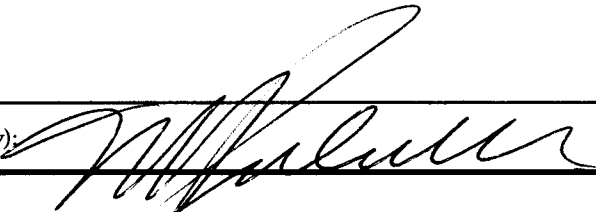
Date of Submission: 1998

Submitted by: John Fedak, Margaret Buckwalter

*WRITTEN DESCRIPTION YES PHOTO No Specimens No Recording No*

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV-A				Abstain
					Class IV-B	Class IV-C	Class V	
D. Couchman		X						
T. Floyd								X
P. Hess		X						
R. Ickes			X					
J. McWilliams			X					
B. Reid		X						
P. Rodewald		X						
TOTALS		4	2					1
DECISION		X						

Comments: *6/10/11*

Signature (Secretary): 

Date: *8/29/10*