

BirdLife Australia Rarities Committee

Unusual Record Report Form

This form is intended to aid observers in the preparation of a submission for a major rarity in Australia. (It is not a mandatory requirement) Please complete all sections ensuring that you attach all relevant information including any digital images (email to tonyp@bigpond.net.au or andrew.silcocks@birdlife.org.au). Submissions to BARC should be submitted electronically wherever possible.

Full Name: Roksana Boreli	Office Use
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Address:	Phone No:
	Email:

Species Name: Common Teal as per Australian bird guide; Eurasian Teal as per Collins bird guide app.	Scientific Name: Anas crecca
Date(s) and time(s) of observation:	22 August 2019, 12.15
How long did you watch the bird(s)?	About 30 min
First and last date of occurrence:	22 August 2019, we will be looking for it again in the next couple of days
Distance to bird:	about 50m

Site Location Harding dam about 20km south of Roeburne WA. The bird was seen at -20.977581, 117.101595 , on water. We were birding around the dam, chasing star and painted finches.
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Habitat (describe habitat in which the bird was seen): Downstream from a large dam, surrounded by extensive reed beds; rocky hills surrounding it.
Sighting conditions (weather, visibility, light conditions etc.): Sunny, clear day, very good conditions and visibility. Bird was observed through binoculars (10x42, Swarovski). Camera used for photos: Canon 7D with 100-400 zoom lens.

To your knowledge, is the species seen frequently at this site? No.
Were other observers present Do any of the other observers disagree with your identification, if so, who? (please give names, addresses and phone numbers)? All observers agree with the ID. Terry Percival, Phillip Maher, Robert Nevinson,
How confident are you of your identification? , e.g. 70%, 100%. If not 100%, why not? 100% I am familiar with this bird from Europe.

Please confirm that you are willing for BARC to display your images (fully credited with your name) electronically
YES

Other details: e.g. Do you have historical and or anecdotal information/comments relating to the prior occurrence/status of the species within or near this location?
Previous reports from Cocos island area.

Physical Description of Bird - Please describe only what you saw: (1) No. of individuals present (living or dead); (2) age (adult, juvenile, immature) and sex; (3) size and shape; (4) plumage colour and pattern (including any details of moult); (5) colour of bill, eyes and legs/feet; (6) calls; (7) behaviour, movements, flight pattern, and anything else that might help to identify the bird e.g. feeding, interactions with other birds, describe where the bird was – on ground, in canopy, flying etc. Were comparisons made with other species?

- (1) 1 individual
- (2) mature bird, male
- (3) marginally smaller than a grey teal it was associating with; teal shaped, skinnier in the body.
- (4) dark brown crown, dark green eye patch extending well behind the eyes to the back of the neck and with a slight white border on green / Body pale, with a fine grey and white pattern; buff stern; horizontal white area above folded wing, with a black edge.
- (5) dark bill, dark eye, legs not visible as it was on water.
- (6) not calling
- (7) on water, with one grey teal, several coots and plumed whistling ducks.
Significantly smaller than coots, marginally smaller than grey teal.

Please indicate other species with which you think it might be confused and how these were eliminated?

Can't think of any that it could be confused with, as this was a male bird in breeding plumage. It is not a grey or chestnut teal as the colouring and pattern are significantly different (e.g., the head pattern is unique); not a garganey as (again) the head and body pattern and colouring are different – the bird we saw did not have a white eyebrow indicative of garganey.

Was the description written from memory? Yes, but we discussed the sighting straight away and compared the descriptions that each of us had; we also have a number of photographs taken this morning.

Were photographs taken? (please include where possible) Yes, including some characteristic views and comparison with grey teal.

What experience have you had with the species in question? (Did you know it was a Rare bird when you first saw it?)

I knew it was a rare bird for Australia. I have seen this bird in Europe a number of times and have photographs of European birds.

Name: Roksana Boreli

Email Address:



Teal Green Winged RBT04702 copy sm.jpg



Teal Green Winged RBT04729 copy sm.jpg



Teal Green winged Teal Grey RBT04752 copy sm.JPG



Teal Green Winged TPRB4767 copy sm.jpg



Teal Green Winged TPRB4767 copy sm.jpg (crop to bird)