

# 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](mailto:tonyp@bigpond.net.au) or [andrew.silcocks@birdlife.org.au](mailto:andrew.silcocks@birdlife.org.au)). Submissions to BARC should be submitted electronically wherever possible.

<b>Full Name:</b> Max O'Sullivan	Office Use
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<b>Species Name:</b> Northern Shoveler	<b>Scientific Name:</b> <i>Anas clypeata</i>
Date(s) and time(s) of observation: 30/07/19 2pm and 31/07/19 10.30am	
How long did you watch the bird(s)? 2 hours	
First and last date of occurrence: 29/07/19 according to a report by Paul Gatenby via NSW/ACT Birders. Bird still present at time of reporting	
Distance to bird: 20m when first sighted by me but further away when seen by other observers.	

<b>Site Location</b>  Fivebough Wetlands Leeton
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<b>Habitat</b> (describe habitat in which the bird was seen):  Large settling ponds of the Leeton Water Treatment Plant
<b>Sighting conditions</b> (weather, visibility, light conditions etc.): Clear and sunny

<b>To your knowledge, is the species seen frequently at this site?</b> First record
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<b>Were other observers present Do any of the other observers disagree with your identification, if so, who?</b> (please give names, addresses and phone numbers)? No
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<b>How confident are you of your identification?</b> , e.g. 70%, 100%. If not 100%, why not? 100%
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<b>Please confirm that you are willing for BARC to display your images</b> (fully credited with your name) electronically YES or NO I didn't have any but will include some distant shots take by Phil and Kathy Tenison
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<b>Other details:</b> 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? No
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**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?

Very obviously a Northern Shoveler. Was among 100s of other ducks on the pond and easily picked out because of its white chest – the only duck with such obvious characteristics.

"Please insert extra page(s) for this section"

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

None except possibly a Mallard cross which are never seen at this site. Photo evidence shows the Northern Shoveler clearly – no confusion possible.

**Was the description written from memory? MEMORY AND PHOTOS**

**Were photographs taken? (please include where possible)**

Yes by Phil and Kathy Tenison and also David Parker

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

I have seen this duck several times in trips to SE Asia so am familiar with it. Whilst not that rare in Australia – one was reported near Werribee last Spring, It has never been reported here according to the records over 30 years that Keith Hutton has made.

**Name: \_ Max O'Sullivan**

Please email all material

The following photographs of the subject bird were taken by Phil and Kathy Tenison





