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### First Interior Florida Record of the Common Eider

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At about 1100 hr on 17 January 1988, M. Hartsaw and I saw a very large duck standing on the edge of a small island about 20 m from the eastern edge of the approximately 1.5 square km International Mineral and Chemical Company's Clear Spring Mine phosphate pit located about 3 km SE of Bartow, Florida. Our vantage point was the top of a 15 m dike looking down on the pit and duck with the sun over the back of our shoulders making for good light. The estimated distance from us to the duck was 50 m. With our variable-powered scopes, we observed the duck swimming and diving about a meter from the island among a male and female Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*), several Lesser Scaup (*Aythya affinis*), Blue-winged Teal (*Anas discors*) and Ruddy Ducks (*Oxyura jamaicensis*), making for excellent size comparisons. We concluded that the large duck was a female Common Eider (*Somateria molissima*) which closely matched the picture in the National Geographic Society "Field Guide to the Birds of North America." We noted the overall brownish color; the rather long sloping forehead (similar to the Canvasback's (*Aythya valisineria*) profile) with a long frontal shield; a slight but noticeable light-colored eyeline; and at high magnification, fine close barring along the sides for a few inches at an area beneath where the back of the neck came down to the back. This duck differed from pictures of the King Eider (*Somateria spectabilis*) with its more-rounded head, more stubby-looking bill, and the "vee"-shaped markings on the sides.

Several other local birders and I observed the Common Eider later that day and three more times during the next six days, but the duck was never as close to shore as in the first sighting. This Common Eider represents Florida's first interior, fresh-water record and probably the tenth state record.

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### Gopher Tortoise Burrow Use by Long-tailed Weasels and Spotted Skunks

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Approximately 60 species of vertebrates are known to occur in association with burrows of the gopher tortoise (*Gopherus polyphemus*) as accidental, occasional, or obligate residents (Cox et al. 1987, Jackson and Milstrey in press). For this reason, the gopher tortoise may be considered a keystone species (*sensu* Paine 1969) in those habitats where it occurs (Eisenberg 1983). Jackson and Milstrey (in press) list 20 species of mammals among the known animal associates of gopher tortoise burrows, including the eastern spotted skunk (*Spilogale putorius*). We report another mammal, the long-tailed weasel (*Mustela frenata*),