

## COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD UNUSUAL RECORD 

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Please print or type. Attach photographs and additional pages if necessary.

Species: Glaucous-winged Gull | Larus glaucescens  
(Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name)Date(s): 25 July 1981 and 24 JulyNumber of birds seen: one Sex: un Plumage: 1st summerLocality: West end of Antero reservoir Elevation: 9000Nearest town: Hartsel County: ParkTime(s) observed: between 3-7 on 24 and 9-1 P.M on 25thDuration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): several periods in excess of 30 min.

Other observers who saw the bird with you (give names, addresses, telephone numbers):

Peter Gent on 25 July

Other observers who saw the bird independently (give names, addresses, telephone numbers)

Light conditions (position of bird to light and shade, direction and strength of light):

highly variable, generally sunny in good light, viewed from the south to north  
Optical equipment used (e.g. power, types): 8x32 Minolta Mariners, B&L 15-60 scope used at all powersDistance, and how measured: closest approx. 20 m estimate from camera lense settingIf photographed, type of equipment and film: Minolta 500mm Mirror lense.Who else photographed the bird? noone

Describe the bird's behavior (e.g. flying, feeding, or habits used in identifying):

Observed the bird on shore, flying in many areas, and sitting on the water.Heavy flight especially when contrasted with the California gulls in the area and from two Herring Gulls in the area.

Describe in detail the bird's relative size, overall shape, plumage and color pattern. Include details of bill, wing and tail shape. Give particular emphasis to marks you used to identify the bird. Reference to its resemblance to field guide descriptions and illustrations is not enough. Describe only what you actually observe in the field:

Large 1st summer plumaged gull with very worn and white (faded) wing tips and large, stout bill. A dark carpal bar was evident across both wings. The breast, back, rump and tail were mottled pale brown. Leg color was pinkish though never well seen only when landing on water. Head and body shape were large and relatively massive. The rump though mottled with fine barring was lighter than the tail. Overall the bird was very ragged appearing. Head shape was blockish and not rounded with a flat forehead and pronounced eyebrow ridge. The base of the bill appeared to be pale but only around the feathers edges. It did not extend appreciably in to the bill.

Description (continued):

Describe the bird's song and call, if given, including method of delivery, (i.e. from perch, in flight, duration):

none heard

Describe the general and specific habitat in which you observed the bird:

on the shore and open water of Antero Res.  
How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?

Pale wings eliminated all but Glaucous and Iceland and possibly Thayer's Gull  
Iceland and Thayer's eliminated by size, shape of head and certainly by the massive bill.  
Glaucous eliminated by the dark carpal bars, long, thinnish wings (in contrast to Glauc. with very wide wings which results in a heavier flight than this bird had) and the mostly black bill  
Glaucous has a clearly two-tone bill that is never more than half dark.

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species?

Extensive experiance with all possible species, in all seasons throughout their range.

List books, illustrations, recordings, other birders, etc. consulted and how this influenced your identification:

a) at time of observation: None

b) after observation: Ridgway Birds of North and Middle America and Dwights Gulls of the World

This report was written from reports made during xxx, after observation \_\_\_\_\_ from memory \_\_\_\_\_  
Date and time report was written: 12 August 1981

Reporting observer: Charles Chase III Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: Denver Museum of Natural History

All reports will be maintained permanently at the address below:

Return to:

CURATOR, DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS  
DENVER MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY  
CITY PARK  
DENVER, CO 80205

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Please print or type. Attach photographs and additional pages if necessary.

Species: GLAUCOUS WINGED GULL | LARUS GLAUCESCENS  
(Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name)Date(s): 25<sup>th</sup> JULY 1981Number of birds seen: ONE Sex: ? Plumage: IMMATURELocality: WEST END OF ANTERO RESERVOIR Elevation: 9000'Nearest town: HARTSEL County: PARKTime(s) observed: INTERMITTANTLY BETWEEN 10AM AND 1PM

Duration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

Other observers who saw the bird with you (give names, addresses, telephone numbers):

CHARLES CHASE

Other observers who saw the bird independently (give names, addresses, telephone numbers)

Light conditions (position of bird to light and shade, direction and strength of light):

GOOD LIGHT CONDITIONS WITH SUNSHINE.Optical equipment used (e.g. power, types): 7X50 BINOCULARSDistance, and how measured: 100 YDS - 25 YDS AT CLOSEST APPROACH (ESTIMATED)

If photographed, type of equipment and film: \_\_\_\_\_

Who else photographed the bird? CHARLES CHASE

Describe the bird's behavior (e.g. flying, feeding, or habits used in identifying):

FIRST SEEN ON THE SHORE SCAVENGING FOR FOOD. THEN WE CHASED IT ALL ROUND THE RESERVOIR BY BOAT. WE GOT EXCELLENT LOOKS AT IT BOTH SITTING IN THE WATER AND FLYING.

Describe in detail the bird's relative size, overall shape, plumage and color pattern. Include details of bill, wing and tail shape. Give particular emphasis to marks you used to identify the bird. Reference to its resemblance to field guide descriptions and illustrations is not enough. Describe only what you actually observe in the field:

THIS WAS A LARGE GULL, ABOUT THE SAME SIZE AS AN IMMATURE HERRING GULL. THE BILL WAS LARGE, STOUT AND BLACK, AGAIN LIKE A HERRING GULL'S. ITS PLUMAGE, HOWEVER WAS NOTHING LIKE AN IMMATURE HERRING GULL, AND I WAS UNABLE TO IDENTIFY THE BIRD.

Description (continued):

THE MOST OBVIOUS PLUMAGE CHARACTERISTICS WERE OF AN OVERALL LIGHT BIRD, WITH PURE WHITE PRIMARIES AND A DARK CARPAL BAR ACROSS BOTH WINGS. THERE WAS SOME BROWN MOTTLING ON THE BREAST, BACK AND WINGS. THE PLUMAGE REMINDED ME MOST OF IMMATURE GLAUCOUS GULL, BUT WAS NOT PURE WHITE BECAUSE OF THE CARPAL BAR AND MOTTLING. IT ALSO DIDN'T SEEM AS LARGE AS A GLAUCOUS GULL. IT WAS NOT ANYTHING LIKE THE IMMATURE CALIFORNIA AND RING BILLED GULLS THAT WERE ALSO PRESENT. SIZE AND/OR PLUMAGE ALSO ELIMINATED IMMATURE GREAT AND LESSER BLACK BACKED GULLS, ICELAND GULL AND WESTERN GULL, ALL OF WHICH I AM FAMILIAR WITH.

Describe the bird's song and call, if given, including method of delivery, (i.e. from perch, in flight, duration):

Describe the general and specific habitat in which you observed the bird:

ON THE SHORE AND ON THE WATER OF LAKE ANTERO.

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?

GLAUCOUS GULL, NOT PURE WHITE LIKE ~~THE~~ GLAUCOUS IMMATURES I'VE SEEN IN COLORADO. HERRING GULL. NOTHING LIKE THE DARK IMMATURE HERRING GULLS I'VE SEEN HERE. (ALSO, I HAVE NEVER SEEN THESE TWO SPECIES OUTSIDE WINTER IN COLORADO) IT WAS TOO WHITE FOR IMMATURE GREAT & LESSER BLACK BACKED AND WESTERN GULLS. TOO LARGE AND BILL TOO MASSIVE FOR CALIFORNIA ICELAND OR RING BILLED GULLS.

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species?

LITTLE EXPERIENCE, SEEN SOME ON TWO WINTER TRIPS TO CALIFORNIA.

I AM NOT FAMILIAR WITH THIS PLUMAGE, AND DID NOT IDENTIFY THE BIRD.

List books, illustrations, recordings, other birders, etc. consulted and how this influenced your identification:

a) at time of observation: DID NOT IDENTIFY THE BIRD.

b) after observation: LOOKED AT PETERSON, ROBBINS ETC TO CONFIRM EXCLUDING ALL THE SPECIES MENTIONED ABOVE.

This report was written from reports made during \_\_\_\_\_, after observation \_\_\_\_\_ from memory X  
Date and time report was written: 1/23/82

Reporting observer: PETER R. GENT. Signature: Peter R. Gent.

Address: 55 S. 35<sup>th</sup> STREET, BOULDER, CO 80303.

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