

2003-22

Colorado Field Ornithologists Sight Record Form

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

ACCEPTED

Each table cell will automatically enlarge as you type!

Rec'd 1 Apr 03

CBRC FILE #: 2003-22

RESULTS:

Species: (Common Name)Glaucous-winged Gull (Scientific Name)Larus glaucescens

Date(s) of occurrence:March 30, 2003

Number of birds seen:1 Sex:unknown Plumage:1st winter

Exact location:Cherry Creek State Park Marina on boom at far left as one faces the marina.

County:Arapahoe Nearest town:Aurora Elevation:5400' approx

Length of observation:15 min. Time(s) of observation:08:30

Other observers who saw the bird(s) with you:Larry&Roni Wilson, Mary Stallings, Toni Rautus, Warren Finch, Allison Hilf, Meredith von Saltza

Other observers who independently saw the bird(s):Glenn Walbeck and 2 other men (Bob Brown, Greg Goodrich, Larry Madecitt)

Light conditions (quality; direction relative to bird(s) and observers position:Bird was on boom of marina, we were on sidewalk of marina, viewed through scopes at 20-60 power, excellent light, no wind

Optical equipment used:binoculars and scopes at up to 60 power. Mine is Kowa TSN824

Distance to bird(s) (estimated, unless otherwise noted):

Was (Were) bird(s) photographed?No If so, are you submitting photos?

Who took the photograph(s)?

Describe the general and specific habitats in which the bird(s) occurred:fresh water marina

Describe the bird's (birds') behaviors, particularly behaviors that were used in supporting the identification, e.g., flying, feeding, habits: resting on boom, stood up and stretched wings allowing view of legs and underwing.

DESCRIPTION -- This is the most important part of this report. Include in these details the overall size and shape of the bird and give as many plumage details as possible, even including those that you feel might not have relevance to the specific identification. Please fill out this portion even if photos are accompanying your report. All over beige color feathers with total absence of any field marks such as wingbars, tailbands, etc. All black bill. Pink legs. Much larger than Ring-bills and somewhat larger thanCalifornia Gulls nearby.

Describe the bird's (birds') call(s) and/or song(s), if noted:bird was silent

SIMILAR SPECIES -- This is another critical part of your report. Please discuss how you eliminated similar species from consideration:Not Glaucous Gull because bill was entirely black

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species? Saw one individual several times last February at Cherry Creek Res at close range; Warren Finch has more experience than I.

List books, guides, recordings, or other sources consulted and how these influenced your identification (during and after observation): Sibley Guide to the Birds, oral report a few minutes earlier that Glenn Walbeck had seen Glaucous-winged Gull at swim beach.

This report was made from (check one) ___ notes made during observation ___ notes made after observation __X__ later from memory.

Date and time of written report:March 30, 2003, 3:30 p.m.

Reporting observer:Beverlee Guild Signature: Beverlee Guild

Reporting observer's address:12695-D East Pacific Circle, State:CO Zip: 80014

City:Aurora

**Send report to:
Colorado Bird Records Committee
Tony Leukering
PO Box 660
Brighton, CO 80601**

2003-22

From: Glenn Walbek [gwalbek@mindspring.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 29, 2003 7:00 PM
To: Tony Leukering; Tony Leukering
Cc: Bob Brown
Subject: Cherry Creek Gulls
Tony,

I am attaching photos taken today of 2 different gulls at Cherry Creek. 2 of these photos are presumably of the Bob Brown bird, a bird I am reasonably certain is a GWGU. Although the bill does not appear to be as heavy as the GWGU of Cherry Creek last year, I do not believe it is slight enough to be an Iceland. The overall coloration also seems a bit dark for Iceland (in my not so expert opinion). The bird in flight, seems to dispel hybridization as the primaries are the lightest feathers on the upper wing, and they do not get darker towards P9, P10.

The other gull had me puzzled due to the paler tertials and primaries as well as the apparent white edges on the primaries. These features suggest to me 1st year Thayer's, but the bill seems to scream Herring. I have plenty more of these photos, however I suspect you will not need them. As always, any assistance is appreciated.

Glenn

2003-22



Glaucous-winged Gull, Cherry Creek, Arapahoe County, 3-29-03, Walbek



Glaucous-winged Gull, Cherry Creek Res., Arapahoe County, 3-29-03, Walbek