

16
X [] RARE OR UNUSUAL RECORD

[] NEW STATE RECORD

[] ACCEPTED

[] REJECTED

Species: LEAST TERNSterna albifrons

(Vernacular Name)

(Scientific Name-use binomial)

Date(s): August 6, 1977 July 17, 1977 Time Bird Seen: 3-4 PM toLocality: Prewitt ReservoirNearest Town: Brush Fl MoranCounty: Washington

Other observers who independently identified this bird:

NAME

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE

MARK HolmgrenOptical Equipment: 20 power Scope, 10x50 binoculars

If photographed, type of equipment used:

Light Conditions: hot, sunny, clearDistance from bird (how measured): not sure but close enough for a good lookNumber of Birds Seen: 1 Sex: ? Plumage: Summer

Describe the bird's overall behavior and demeanor:

The bird sat on a sand bar along with a group of Franklin's gulls

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

Mark Holmgren, the English veterinarian, doctor & myself left the group of DFO members who, since it was a very hot day, opted for the shade. We set off through the mud flats to get better views of the sandpipers further out.

Being new to this area, I like to look closely at Franklin's gulls and turned the scope to the sandbar upon which they sat. One bird was very noticeably smaller than the others by about $\frac{1}{4}$. I remarked about it but other than size didn't look at it closer but turned the scope over to the others. Either Mark or the Englishman said that the bird was a least tern. Mark had not seen a least tern.

(OVER)

line through eye making the skin cup yellowish.

Describe the bird's song or call, if heard, including method of delivery, i.e., from perch, in flight, etc:

NA.

Describe the habitat in which you observed this bird:

Prewitt reservoir, sandbar (island)

How were similarly appearing species eliminated?

As far as I know, at least in summer plumage there is no other tern or gull with the same appearance as a Least Tern. If I hadn't been so lazy due to heat & a long boring day, I'd have identified the bird myself. We were close enough to have a long, good look.

None of the other terns, except for the Black, is smaller than a Franklin's gull and because the bird was with Franklin's gull, there was no mistaking as to size.

Prior experience with this and similarly appearing species:

4-5 years experience in California at Bay Bridge Toll Plaza (salt marsh)

Books, illustrations and advice consulted and how did these influence this documentation?

Robbins & Peterson field guides confirmed that what we saw was a Least Tern.
Holt & Lane's book was also consulted later on to find out about its occurrence in Colorado after Sophie.

This report was written from notes made during _____ after _____ observation; from memory ☒.

PRINT NAME: JOANN PETTINICCHIO SIGNATURE: Joann Pettinichio DATE: 8/30/77
Street Address: 15150 W 13th Ave Town and State: Golden Co ZIP: 80401

Return to: JACK REDDALL - 4450 South Alton Street, Englewood, Colorado 80110

Bogart said we might have to make out a report. We weren't particularly excited about seeing a Least Tern because we weren't aware of its rarity.