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COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD ☐UNUSUAL RECORD ☒

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

Species: Tri-colored Heron | Egretta tricolor
(Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name)Date(s): SEPTEMBER 8, 1985Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: undetermined Plumage: immatureLocality: Lower Latham Reservoir Elevation: 4,700'Nearest town: LASALLE County: WELDTime(s) observed: 11:00 A.M. to 11:30 A.M. / ALSO 2:30 - 3:00 P.M.Duration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): 30 minutes both timesOther observers who saw the bird with you (give names, addresses, telephone numbers):
Dan Bridges 1925 S. VAUGHN WAY #207 AURORA, CO. 80014 (1-303-755-7665)
Joe Mammoser 2919 Worthington, Ft Collins, Co. 80526 (1-303-223-2187)
Other observers who saw the bird independently (give names, addresses, telephone numbers)NONELight conditions (position of bird to light and shade, direction and strength of light):
Both times sun was out. The first observation it was at my back, the second
Optical equipment used (e.g. power, types): observation it was in my face.
7-35 Binnings, 20x, 40x telescopeDistance, and how measured: the closest observation was 75 YARDS, guess.If photographed, type of equipment and film: _____Who else photographed the bird? _____Describe the bird's behavior (e.g. flying, feeding, or habits used in identifying):
The first time I saw it, it acted lost and flew around a lot. The second
time it was more relaxed and was hunting in typical Heron style.

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:

Heron Like bird the size of "Snowy Egret". The back was a light gray
with rusty colors mixed in. The back of the neck was rusty all the way
from the back to the top of the head. The front of the neck
was white from the chin down to the breast which was a rusty-gray
color all the way across it. The belly was white all the way to
the undertail coverts. The legs were mostly yellowish.

Description (continued):

The bill was straw colored and dark toward the tip.
 Eye color not seen. I used the combination of white belly,
 dark breast, rusty-gray (almost bluish) back, rusty back neck to
 identify the bird. Also the white from the chin down to the breast.

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

None

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

Mudflats of a lowered Reservoir.

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?

Little Blue Heron - All dark Blue ^(breast) plumage, never rusty, dark belly

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

I've seen Tri-colored Heron in Ohio and N. Carolina, all plumages

I've seen several Little Blue Herons, all plumages.

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

a) at time of observation: Geographic field guide ^{to} the birds

b) after observation: the same as above.

This report was written from reports made during _____, after observation ☒ ^{and} from memory ☒
 Date and time report was written: Sept. 8, 1985

Reporting observer: Jerry Cairo Signature: Jerry Cairo

Address: 2621 23rd Avenue #36, Greeley, Co. 80631

All reports will be maintained permanently at the address below:

Return to:

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