

2000

Vol 36/2
April 2002

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2000 - 4

CFO-RC I
RESULTS: _____COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS SIGHT RECORD FORM
(Please print or type. Attach photographs, drawings, and additional pages if necessary.)

Red 4/14/00 upl

Species: YELLOW-BILLED LOON
(Common Name)Glavia adamsii
(Scientific Name)Date(s) of observation: 26 MARCH 2000Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: unknown Plumage: IN MOULT FROM BASICExact location: BIG JOHNSON RESERVOIR, EL PASO COUNTYCounty: EL PASO COUNTY Nearest town: FOUNTAIN Elevation: 5800'Length of observation: ~30-40 mins. Times(s) of observation: 0730-0810 hrsOther observers who saw the bird(s) with you: MATT NORRIS, RYAN HERNLUNDOther observers who independently saw the bird(s): SPRINGS BIRDER CALLED "CC"Light conditions (quality; direction relative to bird's; position): FROM SE, FULL TO SIDE LITOptical equipment used: 8x24 BUSHNELL BINS, 10-60x DISCOVERER SCOPEDistance from bird(s) (estimated unless otherwise noted): 40-120 mWas bird photographed?: NO. If so, have you submitted photographs? _____

Who took the photographs? _____

Describe the general and specific habitat in which the bird(s) occurred: OPEN WATER ON THE RESERVOIR, WELL AWAY FROM SHORE. CLOSEST WAS ~40m.

Describe the bird's behavior (flying; feeding; habits; behaviors used in identifying the species or in supporting the identification):

IN FEEDING-REST CYCLE WHEN FIRST SEEN. THEN IN FULL REST CYCLE LAST 20 MINS OF OBSERVATION SIDE BY SIDE IN SCOPE WITH COMMON LOON.

Describe the bird(s) in detail. This is the most important part of this report. Include overall size and shape, and how you placed the bird(s) in the general group that you did. Give complete details of plumage, including head, throat, undersides, nape, back, wings, and tail. Give particular emphasis to marks you used to identify the bird. Describe other details, such as color and shape of bill, legs, eye, (etc.) that were important in making the identification. (Fill out this portion even if photographs are submitted; you may attach additional sheets, drawings, field sketches, or copy of field notes):

ONE OF 2 LOONS ON RESERVOIR. LARGE SIZE, FLAT HEAD, PALE YELLOW BILL, PALE FACE. DARK PATCH ON LOWER THROAT. REST PRETTY MUCH IN MOULT, BUT OVERALL PALER THAN NEARBY COMMON LOON.Describe bird's call or song: N/ADiscuss similar species and how you eliminated them: COMMON LOON HAD [GRAY-BLUE] BILL; DARK SIDING BACK; WHITE FRONT ON THROAT AND BREAST. COLO "LOOKED" SLIGHTLY SMALLER WHEN SIDE BY SIDE IN SCOPE.What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species? YBLD A FEW TIMES IN MONTEREY BAY, CA IN BASIC PLUMAGE, AND AT RAWHIDE RESERVOIR.

List books, guides, recordings, or other sources consulted and how these influenced your identification (during and after observation):

NBS-3 USED FOR COMPARISON AT TIME OF OBSERVATION. GOOD FOR BILL COMPARISONS IS ALLThis report was made from notes made during X or after _____ observation, or later from memory _____.Date of written report: 06 APR 2000Reporting observer: L. NORRISSignature: Larry L. NorrisLarry L. Norris
Biogeographer1154 South Vancouver Way
Lakewood, CO 80228-3656

Observer's address: _____

Send report to: Bill Lisowsky, 2919 Silverplume Drive, Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

2000 - 4

CFO-RC FIL

RESULTS:

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

(PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE. ATTACH PHOTOGRAPHS, DRAWINGS AND ADDITIONAL PAGES AS NECESSARY)

SPECIES: Yellow-billed Loons

(Common Name)

(Scientific Name)

DATE(S) OF OBSERVATION: 4/14/2000

NUMBER OF BIRDS SEEN: _____ SEX: _____ PLUMAGE: _____

EXACT LOCATION: BIG JOHNSON

COUNTY: _____ NEAREST TOWN: _____ ELEVATION: _____

LENGTH OF OBSERVATION: _____ TIME(S) OF OBSERVATION: _____

OTHER OBSERVERS WHO SAW THE BIRD(S) WITH YOU:

OTHER OBSERVERS WHO INDEPENDENTLY SAW THE BIRD(S):

LIGHT CONDITIONS (QUALITY; DIRECTION RELATIVE TO BIRD(S); POSITION):

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT USED:

DISTANCE FROM BIRD (ESTIMATED UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED): _____

WAS BIRD PHOTOGRAPHED? _____ IF SO, HAVE YOU SUBMITTED PHOTOS? _____

WHO TOOK THE PHOTOGRAPHS? _____

DESCRIBE THE GENERAL AND SPECIFIC HABITAT IN WHICH THE BIRD(S) OCCURRED:

DESCRIBE THE BIRD'S BEHAVIOR (FLYING; FEEDING; HABITS; BEHAVIORS USED IN IDENTIFYING THE SPECIES OR IN SUPPORTING THE IDENTIFICATION):

Photos only submitted by Dunning Idle

DESCRIBE THE BIRD IN DETAIL. THIS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF THIS REPORT. INCLUDE THE OVERALL SIZE AND SHAPE AND HOW YOU PLACED THE BIRD IN THE GENERAL GROUP THAT YOU DID. GIVE COMPLETE DETAILS OF PLUMAGE, INCLUDING HEAD, THROAT, UNDERSIDES, NAPE, BACK, WINGS AND TAIL. GIVE PARTICULAR EMPHASIS TO MARKS YOU USED TO IDENTIFY THE BIRD(S). DESCRIBE OTHER DETAILS, SUCH AS COLOR AND SHAPE OF BILL, LEGS, EYE, ETC. THAT WERE IMPORTANT IN MAKING THE IDENTIFICATION. (FILL OUT THIS PORTION EVEN IF PHOTOGRAPHS ARE SUBMITTED; YOU MAY ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS, DRAWINGS, FIELD SKETCHES OR COPY OF FIELD NOTES):

DESCRIBE BIRD'S CALL OR SONG:

DISCUSS SIMILAR SPECIES AND HOW YOU ELIMINATED THEM:

WHAT IS YOUR PRIOR EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND SIMILARLY APPEARING SPECIES?

LIST BOOKS, GUIDES, RECORDINGS OR OTHER SOURCES CONSULTED AND HOW THIS INFLUENCED YOUR IDENTIFICATION (DURING AND AFTER OBSERVATION):

THIS REPORT WAS MADE FROM NOTES MADE DURING _____ OR AFTER _____ OBSERVATION, OR LATER FROM MEMORY _____.

DATE OF WRITTEN REPORT: _____

REPORTING OBSERVER: DUNNING IDLE

SIGNATURE: _____

OBSERVER ADDRESS:

4540 Whispering Court
Colorado Springs, CO 80917

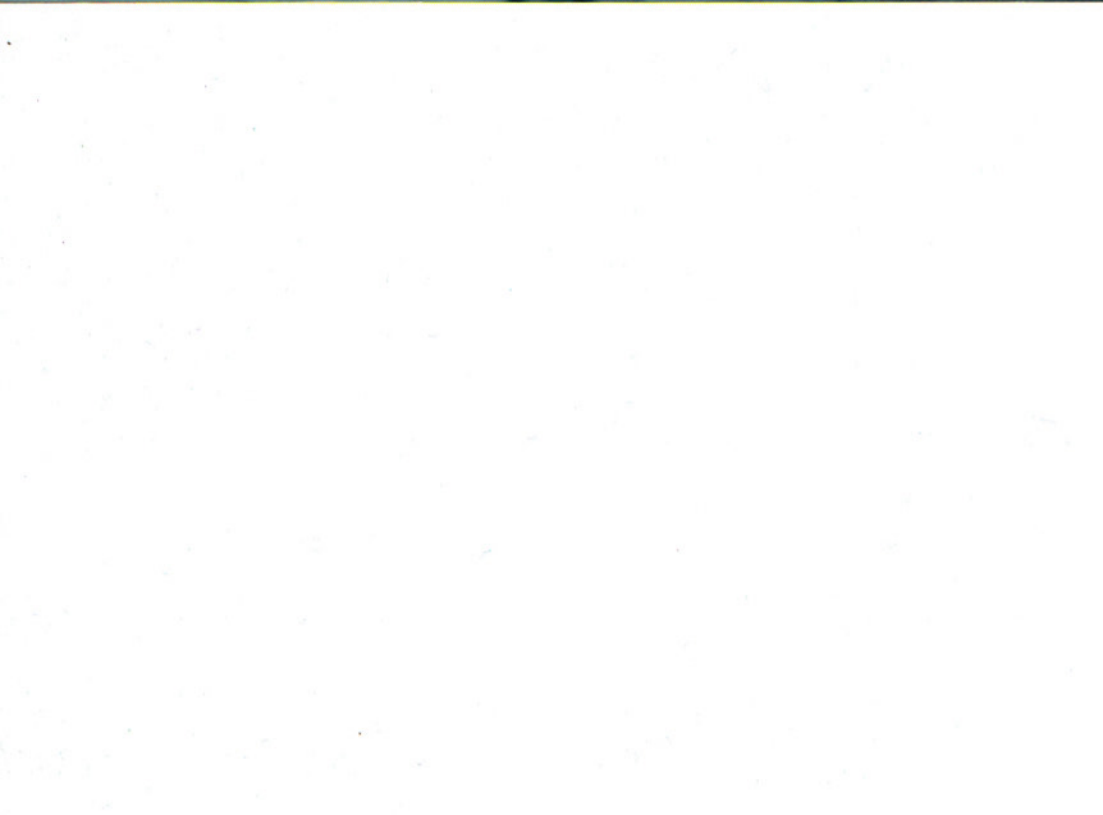
SEND REPORT TO:

COLORADO BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

c/o BILL LISOWSKY

2919 SILVERPLUME DR.

FT. COLLINS, CO 80526



YELLOW-BILLED LOONS

APRIL 14, 2000

SOUTH END BIG JOHNSON DAM

COLORADO SAGS

BOB —

THOUGHT YOU MIGHT LIKE
THIS RECORD.

ADAMING

#2000-4

Yellow-billed Loon*Gavia adamsii*

16 & 18 April 2000

Big Johnson Reservoir, near Colorado Springs,

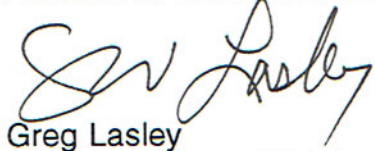
El Paso Co., Colorado

Greg W. Lasley

Recd 4/26/00 wpl
(8 slides)

Details: I was in Colorado Springs to attend the ABA Board meetings for spring, 2000. On 14 April I heard that a Yellow-billed Loon had been seen at Big Johnson Reservoir by several people. On the morning of 15 April I had a little time, so several of us went to Big Johnson which was only about 15 minutes away from our hotel. There were two large loons visible on the lake, but scope views showed both to be Commons. At that point I was somewhat dubious of the Yellow-billed report, but that evening I was assured that there had been a Yellow-billed present days earlier and that it had been seen by Brandon Percival and other knowledgeable observers. On the morning of 16 April about 8 of us returned to Big Johnson to have another go at finding the loon. Shortly after our arrival, and fairly close to the dam or levee where we were walking, three large loons were obvious, one Yellow-billed and two Commons. The Yellow-billed and one of the Commons stayed fairly close to one another as they slowly swam farther out into the lake. I was able to take a number of slides of these two birds with a Canon 600 F4 lens and a 2X extender (1200 mm) and a Canon EOS 3 camera body. On 18 April I again saw the loon at this location on my way to the airport to return home.

Description: This was a large loon, slightly larger by direct comparison than adjacent Common Loons. It had a huge, thick, ivory colored bill that it carried tilted upward at a noticeable angle. I particularly noted that the top edge of the culmen of the Yellow-billed was dusky near the base, but the culmen was entirely unmarked from this dusky base out to the tip. The head of this loon was large and blocky-looking with the characteristic double-peaked look characteristic of the species. This was my 4th Yellow-billed Loon. I had previously seen one in New Mexico in 1992 or 1993 (1st NM record at Conchas Res.), and two at Lake Balmorhea in west Texas in 1993 and 1996. The Big Johnson bird was in a later plumage state than the others I had seen, and thus mostly lacked the typically obvious "ear-spot" of basic plumaged Yellow-billed Loon. I can only suspect that this bird was starting to get a darker head overall and thus this character was not real obvious. I took no written notes during the observation and this account is being written from memory on 23 April 2000. I will enclose photos with this report. Copies of this will be sent to Brandon Percival as well as the Colorado BRC.



Greg Lasley

Secretary, Texas Bird Records Committee



Yellow-billed Loon
(w/ Common Loon)
at Big Johnson Res.
4/16/2000 by Greg Lasley

#2000-4



Yellow-billed Loon
(w/ Common Loon)
at Big Johnson Res.
4/16/2000 by Greg Lasley

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