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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: Red Knot Calidris canutus
(Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name)Date(s): September 6, 1993Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: ? Plumage: BreedingLocality: Blue Lake Elevation: ca. 4200 feetNearest town: Las Animas County: BentTime(s) observed: 2:30 PMDuration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): 2 minutes

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

None

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

None

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

Bird was directly northeast of me & sun was southwest of me.
Hence light was perfect. Sun was fairly bright in partly cloudy weather

Optical equipment used (e.g. power, types): Swift 15-60x zoom TelescopeDistance, and how measured: 75 yards estimated

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):

This bird was feeding with Dowitchers in similar fashion to a Dowitcher with rapid probes without moving or changing locations. After about 2 minutes watching it, ~~the~~ I saw it fly & could not relocate it.

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 observed in the field: The bird's body was slightly larger than a Dowitcher

though its bill & legs were slightly shorter than Dowitcher. It had a stockier & plumper appearance than Dowitchers. Entire face, throat, breast, & upper belly was bright rufous red without speckles or streaks. Lower belly & undertail coverts were white. Bird may have started molting into basic plumage since white extend

Description (continued): to where legs joined body. Head & nape were finely streaked with light & dark brown stripes. I did not see back pattern well due to my distance from bird, but it appeared similar to Dowitchers. Bill was long and dark though as long as Dowitchers. Legs appeared dark. When bird flew its tail appeared a diffused gray color becoming darker towards center, slightly lighter on edges. Back was fairly dark & lacked the light "V" of the Dowitcher. I did not see a prominent wing stripe on this bird as some field guides illustrate, but I may have been too far to see it.

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

No call given

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

Near Dam of prairie lake with very few trees around.

Diffuse water pools were present. They were shallow as this portion of lake appeared to be drying up.

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?

I was able to compare this bird with nearby Dowitchers. Its shorter bill & legs, plumper body, lack of white "V" on back, and unstreaked and unspotted rufous face & underparts convinced me it was a Red Knot.

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

I've seen breeding plumaged knots several times in Colorado & Kansas.

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

a) at time of observation: National Geographic

b) after observation: Hayman, Martin, Prater Shorebirds

This report was written from reports made during _____, after observation ☒ from memory _____

Date and time report was written: September 8, 1993 7:30 PM

Reporting observer: Dave Silverman Signature: Dave Silverman

Address: P.O. Box 362

Aye CO 81069

Return to:
Bill Prather
C.F.O. Official Records Committee
13810 WCR 1
Longmont, Colorado 80504

XC: Hugh Kinyery