

Hudsonian Godwit Limosa haemastica

1 in changing plumage

Accepted JR
8/30/75

CF& I Lakes 7 miles SW of Pueblo, Pueblo County

May 29, 1975 9:00 to 9:20 A.M.

Observers: Van A. Truan

Tim & Katie Barksdale

Bob Shea

Both from St. Louis, Mo.

Habitat: Prairie Lake; Mud flats

While birding in a rain at the west end of the upper lake we saw a bird fly and land close to an avocet. It was about the same size but more heavily bodied. I saw white in the tail area which caught my attention. I then saw that it was a godwit(up turned long bill, brown in color). So, we then walked down to the lake shore. we put out scopes(Bosh-Lomb and Bushnell at 20 to 30 power) and saw that the bird was darker on the back than the front. The tail was obscured so it looked like a marbled. I was sure it had a white tail when it landed so I decide to flush it. We got up to about ten feet from it and then it flew. We saw a Black tail with a wide white band at the base of it. the bird flew north to the back side of the mud flat so we couldn't see it again. It Had wing stripes when it flew.

Conclusions: I was a Hudsonian because;

- 1) Black tail with wide white band at the base
- 2) darker back than front sides and wing stripes when it flew
- 3) The other observers have seen this species in So. Texas this year. It was new to my list.

Similar species: Marbled godwit- Brown tail with black bars, plain wings and uniform color front and back

Other godwits- White band on black tail is lacking

Prepared on June 6, 1975

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