

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD ☐UNUSUAL RECORD ☒

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

Species: HUDSONIAN GODWIT
(Vernacular Name)LIMOSA HAEMASTICA
(Scientific Name)Date(s): 5-5-80Number of birds seen: 1Sex: ?Plumage: coming into breeding plumageLocality: MILE HIGH DUCK CLUB, SOUTH PONDElevation: ?Nearest town: BARR LAKE VILLAGECounty: ADAMSTime(s) observed: 10:45 A.M.Duration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): 3-8 mins.

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

HAROLD HOLT 429-1698c/o LTP PRESS, BOX 21604, DENVER, COL. 80221

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

?

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

FULL SUNLIGHT, CLEAR DAYBIRD LIGHTED FROM SIDE AND FRONT RELATIVE TO OBSERVERSOptical equipment used (e.g. power, types): BINOCULARS 7X35 (JAN)Distance, and how measured: 30 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):

THE GODWIT FLEW IN FROM THE WEST EDGE OF THE SOUTH POND AND LANDED IN SHALLOW WATER. WE FLUSHED IT AND IT WHEELED AND FLEW BACK TO THE WEST EDGE AND LANDED AND RESUMED FEEDING.

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:

WE WERE WATCHING TWO WESTERN SANDPIPERS ON THE SAND SPIT, AND HAD MANEUVERED SO THE SUN WAS SOMEWHAT BEHIND US, WHEN HAROLD SPOTTED A BIRD FLYING IN FROM THE WEST END OF THE POND. AT FIRST I THOUGHT IT WAS A WILLET BECAUSE OF THE WHITE STRIPE GOING OUT EACH WING, BUT AS IT LANDED RIGHT IN FRONT OF US NEAR THE SANDPIPERS I SAW THE LONG, UPWARD CURVED ORANGE AND BLACK BILL AND EXCITEDLY CALLED OUT "GODWIT!". I HAD ONLY SEEN ONE OTHER GODWIT IN MY ONE YEAR OF BIRDING IN CALIFORNIA. I WAS MAKING AN IDENTIFICATION FROM THE BILL SIZE AND COLOR, WHEN HAROLD CALLED MY ATTENTION TO THE WING STRIPE AND BLACK AND WHITE TAIL AS DEFINITELY RULING OUT THE MARBLED GODWIT. I CHECKED THE GUIDE WHILE HE CONTINUED TO OBSERVE, AND WE SAW THESE FEATURES AS IDENTIFYING MARKS OF ONLY THE HUDSONIAN GODWIT. WE OBSERVED ONLY A FEW

Description (continued):

ORANGE BARS ON THE FLANKS AND NOT THE OVERALL ORANGE COLORING OF THE UNDERPARTS AS SHOWN IN "ROSBINS".
OR CONSULTING OVER THE PICTURE AND LOOKING AGAIN AT THE FEEDING BIRD AS IT WALKED SLOWLY AWAY FROM US, I THREW
ROCK NEAR IT IN THE WATER AND IT FLUSHED. AGAIN WE SAW THE BLACK AND WHITE TAIL, AND WHITE WING STRIPES.
CAREFULLY WATCHED AS THE BIRD LANDED AND SAW THE "SOOTY" COLORING OF THE UNDERWINGS AS DESCRIBED IN THE
FIELD GUIDE. THE ONLY QUESTION WAS CONCERNING THE SPARSENESS OF ORANGE-RED ON THE UNDERPARTS WHICH I ASSUME
JUST A CHARACTERISTIC OF THIS SPECIES AT THIS TIME OF YEAR.

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

NONE HEARD

Describe the general and specific habitat in which you observed the bird:
GEN. MARSHY AREA DOTTED WITH LAKES SPEC. IN WATER NEAR SAND SPIT IN SMALL POND.

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?

BY OBSERVATION OF BLACK AND WHITE TAIL, WHITE WING STRIPES AND BLACK UNDERWING LINING (AXILLAR AREA AND BEYOND).

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

I ONCE SAW A MARSHY GOOIT IN CALIFORNIA FROM A GREATER DISTANCE.

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

a) at time of observation:

HAROLD NOTED THE WHITE WING STRIPES AND ASKED ME TO CHECK MY "BIRDS OF NORTH AMERICA" (ROSBINS, BRUN + ZIN) WHICH I SAID
THE UNIQUE TAIL & WING MARKINGS WE OBSERVED IN THE FIELD. SHOULD
GUIDE

b) after observation:

THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO QUESTION AS TO WHICH GOOIT WE SAW, BASED ON MY COMPARING FIELD MARKS WITH THE FIELD
I DID LOOK UP THIS SPECIES IN THE AUDUBON "BIRDS OF EASTERN NORTH AMERICA", LATER THAT DAY.

This report was written from reports made during ☒ after observation ☐ from memory
Date and time report was written: 6-24-80 7-9 PM

Reporting observer: BRIAN THEODORE POST

Signature: Brian T. Post

Address: ~~PO~~ HAROLD J. POST, 14 WALNUT STREET, CITSKILL, N.Y. 12414

All reports will be maintained permanently at the address below:
Return to: CURATOR, DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS
DENVER MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
CITY PARK
DENVER, CO 80205