

Rcd 7/5/99
wpl

1999 - 36

DOCUMENTATION FORM

Species: Hudsonian Godwit

Number: 1

Location: Beebe Draw, Weld Co., Colorado

Habitat: shallow wetland

Date: 22 April 1999

Time: 9:52-10:06 a.m.

Observer: Stephen J. Dinsmore 612 1/2 West Magnolia St. Fort Collins, CO 80521

Others who saw bird(s): Joe Fontaine, m.ob.

ACCEPT 7-0

Description of bird(s): Joe and I stopped at Beebe Draw on our return from Barr Lake State Park. We were aware of an earlier report of a Hudsonian Godwit at this location. After a couple of minutes, I spotted a larger shorebird foraging with 8 Long-billed Dowitchers. This bird was nearly twice the size of a dowitcher and was clearly recognizable as a godwit. The bill was long, bicolored (pale base and dark distal area), and slightly upturned. The upperparts were generally dark-colored. The underparts were a dark cinnamon color with darker horizontal barring. During a short flight I noted the black wing linings, white stripe along the base of the primaries, and the white rump. I concluded that the bird was a Hudsonian Godwit in alternate plumage.

Similar species and how eliminated: The combination of large size, upturned bill, wing and tail patterns, and cinnamon coloration on the underparts eliminates other godwit species, especially Marbled Godwit.

Previous experience with species: I have seen hundreds of Hudsonian Godwits in Iowa and smaller numbers in many Midwestern states and along the Atlantic Coast.

Viewing conditions and equipment: Viewing conditions were very good with overcast skies and light rain and snow. Estimated viewing distance was 200m. I used a 20-60x spotting scope.

References consulted: none

How long before field notes written? none written

How long before this form completed? written 4 June 1999