COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD ☐   UNUSUAL RECORD ☒   LATILONG 7: NOTHING TO A.

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

Species: OLIVACEOUS or NEOTROPIC CORMORANT | PHALACROCORAX OLIVACEUS
(Vernacular Name)   (Scientific Name)

Date(s): 6/29/81

Number of birds seen: ONE   Sex: ?   Plumage: ALMOST ADULT

Locality: RED LION STATE WILDLIFE AREA   Elevation: 3600' ?

Nearest town: CROOK   County: LOGAN

Time(s) observed: ABOUT 1:30 pm and 3:30 pm

Duration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): 5-10 minutes each time

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

BRUCE WEBB 315B EAST CARRILLO ST, SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA 93101.
JOHN LUTHER, ALAN CRAIG, NARCA MOORE

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

~~HANK~~ ? THOMPSON MARSH, JACK REDDALL.

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

EXCELLENT. SUNSHINE AND BIRD WAS SITTING IN THE OPEN.

Optical equipment used (e.g. power, types): BINOCULARS 7X50 & TELESCOPE 20-45 MAG.

Distance, and how measured: ~~#~~ 300 YDS ESTIMATED.

If photographed, type of equipment and film: NO

Who else photographed the bird? JOHN LUTHER

Describe the bird's behavior (e.g. flying, feeding, or habits used in identifying):

BOTH TIMES THE BIRD WAS SITTING ON A SAND BAR WITH ADULT
AND IMMATURE DOUBLE CRESTED CORMORANTS, AND THEN THEY ALL TOOK OFF.

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 il-
lustrations is not enough. Describe only what you actually observe in the field:

WE NOTICED THIS BIRD BY ITS SMALLER SIZE BY SEVERAL INCHES
THAN ALL THE SURROUNDING CORMORANTS, BOTH IMMATURES AND ADULTS (≈20).
CLOSER OBSERVATION SHOWED THAT ITS BILL WAS ALSO NOTICEABLY SHORTER
(≈75%) AND THINNER THAN THE OTHER CORMORANTS. THE GULAR PATCH ON THE BIRD

Description (continued):

WAS BORDERED ON TWO SIDES OF A TRIANGE TOWARDS THE FACE BY LINES OF WHITE, BUT THE BIRD WAS NOT AS GLOSSY BLACK AS THE ADULT D-C CORMORANTS. HENCE MY 'ALMOST ADULT' PLUMAGE DESCRIPTION. NONE OF THE OTHER CORMORANTS HAD THESE WHITE LINES BM BORDERING THE GULAR PATCH. THE IMMATURE O C CORMORANTS PLUMAGE WAS LIGHTER THAN THE BIRDS PLUMAGE. EYE COLOR COULD NOT BE DETERMINED. WHEN ALL THE BIRDS FLEW, THE CORMORANT WAS EASILY PICKED OUT BY ITS SMALLER WING SPAN AND BODY.

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

NONE

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

ON A SAND BAR IN A MEDIUM SIZED LAKE. THERE ARE TREES AND A DOUBLE CRESTED CORMORANT ROOKERY AT NEARBY JUMBO RESERVOIR.

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?

1) WHITE LINES BORDERING THE GULAR PATCH and 2) SMALLER BODY AND BILL SIZE DISTINGUISHED IT FROM BOTH ADULT AND IMMATURE DOUBLE CRESTED CORMORANTS.

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

DOUBLE CRESTED CORMORANTS ARE COMMON IN COLORADO AND ELSEWHERE. I HAVE SEEN OLIVACEUS CORMORANTS SEVERAL TIMES ON TRIPS TO SOUTH TEXAS AND MEXICO (3 TRIPS)

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

a) at time of observation: NONE.

b) after observation: GOLDEN FIELD GUIDE, CONFIRMED THE FIELD MARKS SEEN AND DISCUSSED DURING OBSERVATION OF THE BIRD.

This report was written from reports made during _____, after observation ✓ from memory ✓
Date and time report was written: ___7/3/81___

Reporting observer: ___PETER R. GENT___ Signature: ___Peter R. Gent___

Address: ___55 S 35th St, BOULDER, COLORADO 80303.___

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