

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD REPORT
☒ RARE OR UNUSUAL RECORD ☐ NEW STATE RECORD

CFO-ORC FILE NO. 23-77-5
☒ ACCEPTED ☐ REJECTED

Species: LITTLE GULL

Larus minutus

(Vernacular Name)

(Scientific Name-use binomial)

Date(s): May 15, 1976

Time Bird Seen: _____ to _____

Locality: UNION RESERVOIR

Nearest Town: LONGMONT, COLO

County: BOULDER

Other observers who independently identified this bird:

NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
<u>DAVE ALLEN</u>	<u>700 Atwood St. Longmont CO</u>	<u>772 6538</u>
<u>JOE BOULDER</u>	<u>1328 S. CUFFMAN ST. LONGMONT</u>	<u>772 9283</u>

Optical Equipment: 7x35 BINOCULARS, 7-15x35 BINOCULARS

If photographed, type of equipment used: NONE

Light Conditions: _____

Distance from bird (how measured): 25'-30' (ESTIMATED) AS HE FLEW OVERHEAD

Number of Birds Seen: 1 Sex: - Plumage: IMMATURE

Describe the bird's overall behavior and demeanor:

OBSERVED BIRD WHILE WALKING ALONG N. SHORE OF UNION RES. FIRST SEEN WITH OTHER GULLS (RING-BILLED) ON SHORE LINE. WE WERE ABLE TO SMELL THEM FROM 75-100' OF GULLS TO OBSERVE & LATER THEY FLEW OFF BUT STAYED FAIRLY CLOSE TO SHORE. THE LITTLE GULL FLEW IN HAND VERY TERN LIKE WITH FAST WARTING MOVEMENTS & SHARP TURNS & IMMEDIATELY. REMOVED ME ON A FLYCATCHER IN FLIGHT CATCHING INSECTS WITH THE FAST MOVEMENTS. Describe in great detail the bird's size, overall shape, plumage and color-pattern. Include details on shape of bill, wings and tail. Give particular emphasis to the marks you used to identify the bird. Reference to its resemblance in field guide descriptions is not enough. Describe what you actually saw in the field:

THE LITTLE GULL SEEMED $\frac{1}{2}$ THE SIZE OF THE RING-BILLED GULLS, WITH A MUCH MORE COMPACT BODY SIZE. I FIRST NOTICED THE DARK COLORED CROWN, EXTENDING SLIGHTLY BACK ON THE Nape, AS THE BIRD WAS WALKING ABOUT ON THE SHORE LINE. LIGHT ORANGISH COLORED LEGS. AS THE BIRD TOOK OFF THE WHITE TAIL WITH THE BLACK WEDGE COLORED SHARP WAS VERY NOTICEABLE. BLACK WING TIPS ON UPPER SIDE OF WINGS. SLENDER ORANGISH RED BILL. FLEW OVERHEAD 20'-30' SEVERAL TIMES & STAYED IN IMMEDIATE VICINITY FOR 15 MINUTES.

Describe the bird's song or call, if heard, including method of delivery, i.e., from perch, in flight, etc: *IN FLIGHT, SOME SLURRING CHATTER*

Describe the habitat in which you observed this bird: *SHORE LINE (NORTH) OF UNION RESERVOIR. SANDY BEACH THAT BORDERS THE RESERVOIR*

How were similarly appearing species eliminated?

THE BLACK LEGGED KITTIWAKE (IMMATURE) WAS ELIMINATED BY THE FACT THAT THIS BIRD HAD DIFFERENT COLORED LEGS & A DARK COLORED HOOD.

Prior experience with this and similarly appearing species: *NONE SEEN PRIOR TO THIS EXPOSURE BUT I HAVE SEEN SEVERAL BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKES.*

Books, illustrations and advice consulted and how did these influence this documentation?

BIRDS OF NORTH AMERICA - ROBINSONS - THIS BOOK GIVES AN ART DESCRIPTION & A REASONABLE LIKE PICTURE.

This report was written from notes made during ___ after ☒ observation; from memory ___

PRINT NAME: *CRAIG WILLIAMS* SIGNATURE: *Craig Williams* DATE: *12/5/26*
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