

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

*accepted*NEW STATE RECORD ☐UNUSUAL RECORD ☒

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

Species: Little Gull / LARUS MINUTUS
(Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name)Date(s): 11/3/94Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: ? Plumage: 1ST WINTERLatilong: 4 Distribution Code: _____ Habitat Code: LLocality: UNION RESERVOIR Elevation: 5200'Nearest town: LONGMONT County: WELDTime(s) observed: 1:30 - 1:45 PMDuration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): 15 MIN.

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

NONE

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

UNKNOWN

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

OVERCAST. GOOD LIGHT.Optical equipment used (e.g. power, types): SWIFT 8X BINOCES.
BAUSCH/LOMB 25X SCOPEDistance and how measured: 300 YARDS - ESTIMATEIf photographed, type of equipment and film: N/AWho else photographed the bird: N/A

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

FLYING WITH BONAPARTE'S GULLS. WINGBEATS MORE RAPID AND FLIGHT MORE FLUTTERY. KEPT CLOSER TO WATER'S SURFACE.

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 observed in the field:

GRAY ABOVE w/ DIAGNOSTIC BOLD "W" PATTERN ON WINGS.WINGTIPS EXTENSIVELY BLACK BUT NOT NOTICEABLY ROUNDED
NO BLACK ON TRAILING EDGE OF WING. SHORT BLACK BAND

Description (continued): ON LOWER BACK / UPPER RUMP AREA, SQUARE
WHITE TAIL W/ BLACK TERMINAL BAND ACROSS THE WHOLE WIDTH.
SMALLER BODIED AND SHORTER WINGED THAN BONAPARTE'S GULLS
WITH IT. SHORT BLACK BILL. LEGS APPEARED DARK. CROWN COLOR
NOT NOTED. UNDERWINGS UNIFORMLY PALE W/ NARROW BLACK
EDGING TO WING TIPS. UNDER BODY WHITE.

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

SILENT.

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

OVER RESERVOIR.

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?

BONAPARTE'S GULL (IMM) IS LARGER W/ LONGER WINGS AND BLACK
TRAILING EDGE TO UPPER WINGS. WING TIPS LESS EXTENSIVELY BLACK W/
WHITE PATCHES OFTEN VISIBLE.
ROSS' GULL HAS WEDGE SHAPED TAIL W/ LESS EXTENSIVE TERMINAL
BAND.
COM. BLACK HEADED GULL HAS LESS STRIKING UPPERWING PATTERN WITH MUCH
LESS BLACK AND MORE WHITE IN WING TIPS.

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

1 SIGHTING OF SAME PLUMAGE, 5 YEARS AGO.

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

a) At time of observation: NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC FIELD GUIDE. (USED TO CHECK FOR
DIAGNOSTIC FIELD MT

b) After observation: GRANT'S GULLS (USED TO RESEARCH SIMILAR SPECIES)

This report was written from reports made during X, after
 observation _____, from memory _____

Date and time report was written: 11/6/94 9 A.M.

Reporting observer: MARK NIKAS Signature: MA NIKAS

Address: 2820 9TH PL SW, LOVELAND, CO 80537

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