

☒ RARE OR UNUSUAL RECORD☐ NEW STATE RECORD☒ ACCEPTED ☐ REJECTEDSpecies: Little Blue Heron
(Vernacular Name)Florida caerula
(Scientific Name-use binomial)Date(s): May 23, 1973 Time Bird Seen: ~ 2:00 PM to ~ 2:30 PMLocality: About 4 miles downstream on the Yampa R. from the Highway 318 bridgeNearest Town: Maybell County: Moffat

Other observers who independently identified this bird:

NAME

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE

NoneOptical Equipment: 7x50 binoculars

If photographed, type of equipment used: _____

Light Conditions: ExcellentDistance from bird (how measured): 30 yds (estimated)Number of Birds Seen: 1 Sex: ? Plumage: adult

Describe the bird's overall behavior and demeanor: The bird was standing along the river bank. The bird was flushed a number of times and flew upstream as our boat moved upstream. The bird was perched on a dead ~~tree~~ limb over the water adjacent to an island when positive I.D. made

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 bird was obviously a wader about the size ^{and shape} of a snowy egret. It appeared to be essentially dark blue-gray color ~~with no distinguishing~~ ^{The legs and feet were} ~~also dark~~ with no obvious variations. The bill was heron-like ^{straight and long} and the tail short. No particular attention was paid to wing shape.

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

None heard

Describe the habitat in which you observed this bird:

riparian along the river bank which had very little vegetation

How were similarly appearing species eliminated?

To small for Great Blue Heron and no variation in color like a Louisiana or Great Blue. Bill not Ibis shaped

Prior experience with this and similarly appearing species: Observed the Little Blue Heron many times on the Patuxent Wildlife Res. Center in Laurel, Maryland. Observed Great Blue Heron in a number of areas under a variety of circumstances.

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

Birds of North America (field guide)

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

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