

SIGHT RECORD

accepted for 10/21/11

1. SPECIES: Little Blue Heron (Florida/caerulea)
caerulea
2. LOCALITY: Western slope. McCoy, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile north of main street, in pond area on Ewing ranch.
3. DATE: May 15 and 16, ¹⁹⁷⁷ Bird observed three times May 15, approximate times being 9:30 a.m., 1:00 p.m., and 7:30 p.m. On May 16, bird seen about 10:30 a.m., but checking again in the evening bird was not seen.
4. OBSERVERS: Only myself.
5. OPTICAL EQUIPMENT: 8x56 Roof Prism binoculars, Japanese made.
6. HABITAT: Shallow pond area, with spring water running through, along old creek bed. Some willows and cottonwoods along edge of water.
7. DESCRIPTION: A medium-sized heron, with slaty blue body and brownish head and neck. Legs and bill both dark. The bird moved about in the shallow water as it searched for food, occasionally ducking its head into the water. On one observation the bird was resting on a log just above the water's edge, its head held down in a hunched position. The bird was a little wary so I didn't move in very close.
8. CONCLUSIONS: The Reddish Egret is larger and is a salt water bird. The Louisiana Heron has white underparts and also is a salt water bird. The Green Heron is smaller with yellow or orange legs and has a shorter neck.
9. EXPERIENCE: I have observed Little Blue Herons along the Gulf Coast in both Florida and Texas, but am no authority on them.
10. ADDITIONAL MATERIAL: None.

Margaret Ewing