

Little Blue Heron
Lake Henry 9/17/84

5-85-6

APPENDIX II

DOCUMENTATION OF RARE BIRD SIGHTINGS
FOR
THE COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS' RECORDS

A

Bill Maynard 5-85-6

Egretta caerulea

(Vernacular name)

Little Blue Heron

(Scientific name)

Submitted as possible latilong record

If you watch birds solely for your own enjoyment, a written description of your observations is unnecessary. But, if you have seen something unusual, and would like to share this with others, a written description is essential. Compilers of regional bird lists must insist that their records be scientifically sound; future bird students -- those studying occurrences 50 years from now -- must have a written record on which to depend. By providing the verifying written description, you are employing a basic rule of the scientific method.

We recognize that experienced field observers can provide important and reliable records, if supported by an adequate verifying description. Thus this request is an effort to perpetuate your record by obtaining concrete evidence which may be permanently preserved for examination by others in the future. This procedure is required for every extraordinary observation, irrespective of the observer.

Dates (s): 9/17/48 & Time Bird Seen: noonish for 10 minutes

Locality: Lake Henry & Lake Meredith (2nd date)

Ordway, Crowley County, Latilong 20
Nearest town, county and state:

Optical equipment: Nikon 9X30 Binoculars

If photographed, please enclose copy. Equipment used: 500 mm Celestron f.8

Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: ? Plumage: Immature

Light conditions: Fair

Distance from bird, and how measured: as close as 40 feet (camera barrel)

Describe the bird's overall behavior: Bird was feeding with Snowy Egrets. By comparison it was more deliberate while immies chased their fishies.

Describe the habitat in which you observed the bird:

Feeding in the shallow SW edge of Lake Henry

Other observers who independently identified this bird (Please list name and address):

Richard Burr 2525 Main St. Colo. Spgs. CO 80907

APPENDIX II Continued

Describe in great detail the bird which you saw. Emphasize particularly the field marks used to identify the bird, but include a complete description of the bird. Include size, overall shape, plumage and color pattern; details on shape or size of bill, wings, and tail. (Reference to its resemblance to field guide descriptions is not enough). Describe what you actually saw in the field.

This LBT was feeding w/ 4-5 Snowies and all were observed at very close range (see photo). The most obvious field mark was the dark blue-grey tipped primaries readily visible both in flight and while at rest. The plumage was of a young bird still mostly white in plumage. Bill was 2-toned somewhat difficult to observe in given light direction. Legs were blue-green on both front & back. Feet a color continuous with legs. The neck of the LBT appeared thinner than nearby snowies. While feeding the LBT was more patient in its methods.

Describe the bird's calls or sounds, if heard; including method of delivery-- i.e., from perch, in flight, etc.:

No sounds heard

List similar species and how you eliminated them:

IM Snowy Egret - has darker uniform colored bill - yellow toes distinct
 - does not have blue-grey tipped primaries - in my opinion snowy shows fatter neck
 - front of leg quite dark
 - feeding behavior more of a stalker than LBT which seems a more patient feeder

Prior experience with this and similar species:

I have seen a few immature Little Blue Herons during the 10 months that I worked on the Big Cypress Preserve, Florida

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

Name (print) : Bill Maynard

Mailing address: 926 Cheyenne Blvd, Colorado Springs, CO 80906

Signature: Bill Maynard

Return Form To:

CFO Records Committee
 c/o Curator--Zoological Collections
 Denver Museum of Natural History
 City Park
 Denver, CO 80205



THIS SIDE TOWARD SCOTCH