

5-91-8

A

SPECIES: LITTLE BLUE HERON
(Vernacular Name)EGRETTA CAERULEA
(Scientific Name)DATE(S): 9-14-91 TIME OF OBSERVATION: 12 N TO 12:20 PMEXACT LOCATION: SODA LAKE, LITTLE BLUE LAKE PARKNEAREST TOWN: MORRISON COUNTY: JEFFERSON

OTHER OBSERVERS WHO INDEPENDENTLY IDENTIFIED THIS BIRD:

BILL A. ELLIOTTOPTICAL EQUIPMENT: NITON 10X25 BINOCULARS; BRUSH & LOMB SCOPE 40XWEATHER CONDITIONS: BEACON 50%BIRD/SUN ORIENTATION: OVERHEADDISTANCE FROM BIRD AND HOW MEASURED: 150 YDS - ESTIMATENUMBER OF BIRDS SEEN: 1 SEX: ? PLUMAGE: ADULT - NON BREEDINGBEHAVIOR AND DEMEANOR: BIRD WENT TO SHORE ALONG EDGE OF LAKE, WOULD STOP & EAT ONE, OBSERVED IT CATCH & EAT ONE FISH, CONTINUED THIS ACTIVITY THE WHOLE TIME WE WATCHED - PEOPLE WATER SKIING IN THE MIDDLE OF THE LAKE DID NOT DISTURB THE BIRD

HEAD & NECK (forehead, crown, auricular & malar regions, median line, etc.):

HEAD & NECK ALL WERE BLUE (to me the color of blueberries) the top of the head looked darker blue purple - see enclosed drawing

EYES & LORES (supercilium, eye-ring, eye-stripe, color, etc.):

too far to seeLOWER & UPPER MANDIBLES (color & shape): bill was dark gray-blue atbasal, shading into lighter gray-blue at proximal end - seeLEGS & FEET: IN WATER

DRAW

UPPERPARTS (nape, back, rump, uppertail coverts, etc.):

all dark blue

UNDERPARTS (chin, throat, belly, sides, flanks, crissum, etc.):

all dark blue, with exception of chin, looked lighter, but could have been part of bill, I couldn't really make it at that distance

RETRICES (inner, middle & outer tail feathers; color, pattern, shape, etc.):

WINGS (color, length, shape, bars, coverts, etc.):

VOCALIZATION (call/song, method of delivery, i.e., from perch, in flight):

none

HABITAT: lake edge - low willows on bank side

ELIMINATION OF SIMILARLY APPEARING SPECIES:

GREAT BLUE HERON - NOT AS LARGE, NO WHITE OR BLACK ON
FACE + NECK - BILL NOT YELLOW

PRIOR EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND SIMILARLY APPEARING SPECIES:

I CAN'T ESTIMATE NO. OF ADULT LBH. ACCURATELY - MAYBE
A DOZEN

BAZILLIONS GBH

BOOKS, ILLUSTRATIONS AND ADVICE CONSULTED THAT INFLUENCED THIS REPORT:

PETERSON SAYS head + neck are MAROON BROWN; NAT GEO. SAYS head
+ neck are reddish-purple - the bird we saw looks more
like the non-breeding adult in the Nat-GEO. Guide, as it
appeared more nearly the same color all over

THIS REPORT WRITTEN FROM NOTES MADE DURING ☒ AFTER ☒ OBSERVATION; ☐ FROM MEMORY

NAME: MARGARET A. ELLIOTT SIGNATURE: Margaret A. Elliott DATE: Sept 14, 1991

LITTLE
BLUE
HERON

BILL
ELIOTT



5-91-8.