

3-92-5

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CFO-ORC FILE #

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD : : UNUSUAL RECORD (X)

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

Species: Brown Pelican : Pelecanus occidentalis
(Scientific name)

Date(s): August 18 and August 19, 1992

Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: unk. Plumage: adult

Locality: Neenoshe Reservoir Elevation: 3850'

Nearest town: Eads County: Kiowa

Time(s) observed: 1730, 1830 - 1930 (8/18), 0700 - 0800 (8/19)

Duration of observation: more than two hours total.

Others who saw the bird with you (names and addresses): None

Others who saw the bird independently:

Light conditions in relationship to bird: Seen to east, with sun at back, and to west, into sun.

Optical equipment used: 10 x 20 B&L Customs, 20 x Bushnell scope, 400 mm camera lens with 2 x doubler.

If photographed, type of equipment and film: Pentax K1000 camera with Sigma 400 mm lens, with 2 x doubler. Film Fujichrome 100. Color slides are included with the report.

Who else photographed the bird? None.

Describe the bird's behavior. Roosting on shore, swimming in lake, and flying, always with a flock of American White Pelicans.

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 saw in the field. A huge bird, much larger than a Canada Goose, but at least 6" shorter when standing than the White Pelicans it was with. The huge, dark blue-gray bill (close to a foot long) immediately identified it as a Brown Pelican. I am enclosing a field sketch that points out plumage and pattern. the only white on the bird extended across the top of the head just behind the eyes and down the front of the neck to near the neck/body junction. The back of the neck was a beautiful

chestnut color, visible in the slides. There was a narrow white line up the back of the neck, which terminated below the top of the head. The back was a uniform gray, blacker near the center and on the tail. The breast was also gray, but darker than the back. The legs were gray.

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: Lakeshore of a large prairie reservoir.

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species? Separable from White Pelican by size, color of bill, legs and feathers.

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species? I saw one Brown Pelican at Chatfield in June, 1991. I have seen Brown Pelicans in Florida, Texas, California and Mexico.

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

a) at time of observation: None.

b) after observation: National Geographic.

This report was written from reports made during (x), after observation (). from memory ().

Date and time report was written: February 17, 1993

Reporting observer: Duane L. Nelson

Signature:

Duane Nelson

Address: 1619 Ford St., Golden, CO, 80401

All reports will be maintained with the Curator of Zoology, Denver Museum of Natural History, Denver, CO 80205.

FRGV
 CAGU
 AWP 2
 MAR 2
 BUTE SO
 BCN 4 2
 GIB 4 5
 CON 1

1600-1745 tunnel closed

13 stages

BASA
 LESA
 SP 5 A 3

NEE GRANDE 1315-1600 car
 PP 1a 1 (2:1)

FOTE 10

BLTE 30

CAGU 2-

REGV 10

FRGV 500

LESA 10

KILL

BIGR

made ok

stake

field

area of

8/18/92

white contour

white contour

1730-1830

NEE NUSHE 1670

NH

AWPE 50

BRON 1 1/2 (1/2) and broad pl

DCCO

BBPL AP

SAND 1

SESA

SNPL

chestnut

gray back

dark blue-gray

gray

gray

gray

gray

gray

gray

gray

gray

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