

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD ☐UNUSUAL RECORD ☒

LATITUDE 7; NORTH TO A.

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

Species: YELLOW CROWNED NIGHT HERON | NYCTANASSA VIOLACEA
(Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name)Date(s): 6/29/81Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: ? Plumage: ADULTLocality: RED LION STATE WILDLIFE AREA Elevation: 3600'Nearest town: CROOK County: LOGANTime(s) observed: ABOUT 1:45 pmDuration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): 20-25 minutes

Other observers who saw the bird with you (give names, addresses, telephone numbers):

BRUCE WEBB 315B EAST CARRILLO ST, SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA 93101JOHN LUTHER, ALAN CRAIG, NARCA MOORE

Other observers who saw the bird independently (give names, addresses, telephone numbers)

Light conditions (position of bird to light and shade, direction and strength of light):

EXCELLENT. SUNSHINE AND BIRD WAS STANDING IN THE OPENOptical equipment used (e.g. power, types): BINOCULARS 7X50 & TELESCOPE 20-45 MAGDistance, and how measured: 250 YDS ESTIMATEDIf photographed, type of equipment and film: NOWho else photographed the bird? JOHN LUTHER

Describe the bird's behavior (e.g. flying, feeding, or habits used in identifying):

STANDING OUT IN THE OPEN UNTIL FINALLY DISTURBED BY
BRUCE AND JOHN TRYING TO PHOTOGRAPH IT.

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 observe in the field:

THE COMPLETE YELLOW CROWN OF THIS BIRD WAS WHAT FIRST
ATTRACTED OUR ATTENTION. IT WAS IN FULL ADULT PLUMAGE WITH PLUMES,
A COMPLETE FACE PATTERN WITH WHITE STRIPES BEHIND THE EYES
BETWEEN TWO BLACK LINES, AND A GRAY NECK AND BREAST.

Description (continued):

THERE WERE SEVERAL (12-15) BLACK CROWNED NIGHT HERONS IN
THE SAME CATTAILS, ABOUT HALF AND HALF ADULTS AND IMMATURES.
I DID NOT SEE THE BIRD FLYING.

Describe the bird's song and call, if given, including method of delivery, (i.e. from perch, in flight, duration):

NONE

Describe the general and specific habitat in which you observed the bird:

OPEN MUD FLAT BETWEEN CATTAIL MARSHES AT END OF A MEDIUM SIZED LAKE.

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?

FROM BLACK CROWNED NIGHT HERON BY 1) COMPLETE YELLOW CROWN
2) WHITE FACE PATCHES BEHIND THE EYE 3) DARKER NECK AND BREAST.

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species?

BLACK CROWNED NIGHT HERON IS COMMON IN COLORADO AND ELSEWHERE.
I HAVE SEEN YELLOW CROWNED NIGHT HERONS ON TRIPS TO FLORIDA
AND MEXICO (3 TRIPS).

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

a) at time of observation:

b) after observation: GOLDEN FIELD GUIDE; DID NOT INFLUENCE IDENTIFICATION.

This report was written from reports made during _____, after observation ☒ from memory ☒
Date and time report was written: 7/3/81

Reporting observer: PETER R. GENT Signature: Peter R. Gent

Address: 55 S 35th ST., BOULDER, COLORADO 80303.

All reports will be maintained permanently at the address below:

Return to:

CURATOR, DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS
DENVER MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
CITY PARK
DENVER, CO 80205