

copy rec'd
30 Mar 02

CFO-ORC FILE # 2002-33

(A)

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD ☐ UNUSUAL RECORD ☐

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

Species: Trompeter Swan | Cygnus buccinator
(Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name)

Date(s): 22 March 2002

Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: ? Plumage: "1st summer"

Locality: Two Buttes Reservoir Elevation: _____

Nearest town: Two Buttes County: _____

Time(s) observed: 11 AM

Duration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): 45 minutes

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

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):
Mostly from the side

Optical equipment used (e.g. power, types): Kowa 20-60X Scope

Distance, and how measured: 75 yards at the closest

If photographed, type of equipment and film: _____

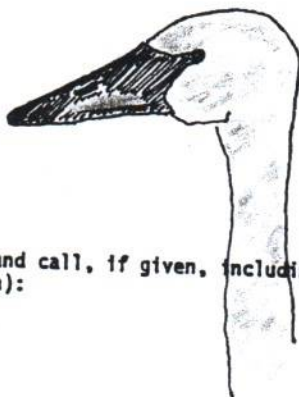
Who else photographed the bird? _____

Describe the bird's behavior (e.g. flying, feeding, or habits used in identifying):
Swimming & feeding in shallow water near the dam.
Also seen standing and preening atop small island.

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:
Swan size color & shape. Bird basically all white, but not bright white. See drawings on back for bill shape and "V" mark on forehead by base of upper mandible. Head and neck almost entirely "dirty white" with a distinct tinge of light brown. Bill black at base with pinkish mid-section running lengthwise along the junction of the upper and lower mandibles. The tip of the bill was dark. Eye wholly enclosed in dark of the bill and appeared as being within the rear of this dark area, not somewhat pinched off by it (i.e. eye not distinct from the bill). Back, tail and side of breast somewhat mottled white and "dirty white". Darker shades not as dark as head & neck but almost so. Tail same shade as back. Feathers mostly clean and perfectly straight with basically no bulge

Description (continued):

at the base. Feet black. Neck looked long & rather thin, vs. shorter & thicker (as in Tundra).



(traced from field sketch)

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

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

shallow water at edge of dam and cliffs of a large artificial reservoir that is silting in more each year.

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?

Bill shape, notch of upper bill on forehead, posture of neck, coloration of bill, coloration of neck & lower parts at this time of year all consistent with 1st summer Trumpeter vs Tundra.

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

I have seen 20+ Trumpeters (mostly adults @ Yellowstone) and 100's of Tundras in Oregon & North Carolina. Not a lot of experience, admittedly, with sub-adults of either spp.

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

a) at time of observation: None

b) after observation: Sibley mostly, CPO website, several other (11) articles

This report was written from reports made during X, after observation _____ from memory _____

Date and time report was written: 27 March 2002

Reporting observer: David Leatherman Signature: David Leatherman

Address: 612 Stone St #7 Ft Collins, CO 80524