

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS SIGHT RECORD REPORT

CFO-ORG FILE # 52-74-61

☒ RARE OR UNUSUAL RECORD ☐ NEW STATE RECORD

Accepted JH 11/15

Species: Black legged Kittiwake

Puffinus pacificus  
~~Protonotaria citrea~~

(Vernacular Name)

(Scientific Name-use binomial)

Date(s): May 11, 1974 March 16, 1975 Time Bird Seen: 5:30 PM to 6:00 PM

Locality: Boyd Lake Inlet

Nearest Town: Holland Colorado

County: Larimer

Other observers who identified this bird:

NAME

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE

Steve Larson

2631 Walnut #40

442-3752

Optical Equipment: Saxon 7x35 Binoculars, 25x50 Spotting Scope, Bushnell Sextant

Light Conditions: Overcast, Fair to Good, Approaching dusk

Distance from Bird (how measured): Estimate 200 ft to 150 yds

Number of Birds Seen: one Sex: Unknown Plumage: Immature

Overall Appearance and Size: Small Gull like bird (12-14" L)

Detailed Description (describe only what was actually observed in the field):

Bill (shape and color): Black, Stout, Conical, Gull like in shape & dimension

Legs (shape and color): Black, webbed

Crown and Forehead: White

Eye (color): Black

Nape: White with black band across back Face: Black eye with grey black band Throat: white

Breast and Sides: White

Belly and Flanks: White

Undertail Coverts: White

Back: Grey

Wings: Grey with black tips & dark edges on rear upper primary coverts leading to primary coverts

Underwings: light grey non-descript

Rump: White

Uppertail Coverts: White

Upper Side of Tail: White with terminal black band

Under Side of Tail: White

Shape of Tail: wedge shaped, squared off terminus

Voice: Not heard

Behavior: Plunge diving, Fishing, Hovering

Habitat: Fresh water reservoir Inlet, Pasture - muddy banks

Prior Experience with this Species: None

How Were Similarly Appearing Species Eliminated? Combination, Head pattern, upper wing pattern, Black tipped squared tail, Black Feet, Black bill

Immature & Winter Bonaparte's, Little, Franklin's, Black-headed: all similar in some respects but vary in one way or other

This Report was Written From: Notes made during        after ☒ observation; Memory ☒ (Time, place, conditions)

Signed: A. Bruce Bosley Street Address: 435 Holly, #11

Date Prepared: 3, Nov, 1975 Town and State: Ashland Oregon ZIP: 97520

Return to: JACK REDDALL - 14150 South Alton Street, Englewood, Colorado 80110

(USE BOTTOM SIDE OF SHEET OR ADDITIONAL SHEETS AS NECESSARY)



☒ RARE OR UNUSUAL RECORD☐ NEW STATE RECORD☒ ACCEPTED☐ REJECTED

9/27/75

Species: BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKERissa tridactyla

(Vernacular Name)

(Scientific Name-use binomial)

Date(s): March 9, 1975Time Bird Seen: Noonto 12:30 PMLocality: Horseshore Lake and Boyd LakeNearest Town: LovelandCounty: Weld

Other observers who independently identified this bird:

Bruce Webb

NAME

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE

Optical Equipment: 7 X 50 binoculars, 15-60 X Zoom B&L telescope

If photographed, type of equipment used: \_\_\_\_\_

Light Conditions: overcastDistance from bird (how measured): minimum of estimated 25 feetNumber of Birds Seen: 1 Sex: ? Plumage: immature

Describe the bird's overall behavior and demeanor:

The bird spent part of its time sitting off the surface of Horseshoe Lake, and would periodically fly over to an inlet of Boyd Lake and fish (with excellent success) there, while we watched from a nearby road about 25-30 feet away. It kept to itself, although when fishing it was among Ring-billed Gulls fishing in the same area (with much less success than the kittiwake), but the kittiwake was not really associating with them.

Describe in great detail the bird's size, overall shape, plumage and color-pattern.

Include details on shape of bill, wings and tail. Give particular emphasis to the marks you used to identify the bird. Reference to its resemblance in field guide descriptions is not enough. Describe what you actually saw in the field:

A medium-sized gull, slightly smaller than the Ring-billed Gulls nearby. Bill fairly short and thin, grayish-olive in color (immature-adult has ~~black~~ bill, yellow). Head white with a small black spot on the auriculars. Underparts (throat, breast, belly, flanks, sides, undertail coverts) completely white. Lower nape white with a black band, tapering to a point at either end, with white separating the black band from the back. Back gray, unmarked. Upperwing surface with a black band crossing the secondary coverts and joining the black outer primaries, creating a black inverted-V. Area anterior to the V was unmarked gray, the area posterior to the V unmarked white. Underwings white with no marks except for black primary tips. Rump white. Tail moderately long, slightly forked, white with a fairly thin black terminal band. Legs black. Eyes black.

(OVER)

Describe the bird's song or call, if heard, including method of delivery, i.e., from perch, in flight, etc:

None

Describe the habitat in which you observed this bird:

Large lakes at tedge of town.

How were similarly appearing species eliminated? (immature plumages)

Sabine's Gull-head is not completely white with a auricular spot and nape band, but rather solid from crown and eye back through the mantle. Wing pattern different. has no band across the wing coverts but rather a field of solid color.

Bonaparte's Gull-is smaller, with more white in primaries, tail not forked and not having a band across the nape.

Black-headed Gull-same as Bonaparte's.

Ross's Gull-wing pattern similar, but has no auricular patch or nape band, has a a wedge-shaped tail.

Little Gull-Back much darker, black cap, much smaller in size.

Prior experience with this and similarly appearing species:

None with Kittiwake or Ross's or Black-headed Gull, seen Little Gull only once(adult nonbreeding plumage); seen Sabine's Gull several times in Colorado, have seen Bonaparte's Gull a number of times in Colorado(including immature plumage).

Books, illustrations and advice consulted and how did these influence this documentation?  
Standard guides consulted, confirmed.

This report was written from notes made during X after        observation; from memory       

PRINT NAME: Robert Andrews SIGNATURE: Robert Andrews DATE: Nov. 12, 197  
Street Address: 1390 So Ivy Way Town and State: Denver, Colorado ZIP: 80224

Return to: JACK REDDALL - 4450 South Alton Street, Englewood, Colorado 80110



Species: BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE  
 (Vernacular Name)

Rissa tridactyla  
 (Scientific Name-use binomial)

Date(s): 3-10-75 Time Bird Seen: 5:45 PM to 6:30 PM

Locality: Boyd Lake

Nearest Town: Loveland County: Larimer

Other observers who independently identified this bird:

NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
<u>Bruce Webb</u>	<u>1290 11th #A Boulder</u>	<u>442-3798</u>
<u>Bob Andrews</u>	<u>1390 Ivy Denver</u>	<u>756-5553</u>

Optical Equipment: 20x Bushnell scope

If photographed, type of equipment used: Honeywell Pentax + 400mm lens

Light Conditions: sun to west

Distance from bird (how measured): 75 ft to 50 ft camera focus

Number of Birds Seen: 1 Sex: \_\_\_\_\_ Plumage: immature

Describe the bird's overall behavior and demeanor:

tern-like flight much plunge diving to catch fish

Describe in great detail the bird's size, overall shape, plumage and color-pattern. Include details on shape of bill, wings and tail. Give particular emphasis to the marks you used to identify the bird. Reference to its resemblance in field guide descriptions is not enough. Describe what you actually saw in the field:

about 1 ft long bill yellow-green indicating bird was starting to attain breeding plumage body and head mostly white except for black crescent on neck and dark spot at ear back and upper wings mostly gray wing tips black + dark stripe thru fore part of wing tail white with black terminal band slightly forked feet palmar black

Describe the bird's song or call, if heard, including method of delivery, i.e., from perch, in flight, etc:

Describe the habitat in which you observed this bird:

prairie reservoir

How were similarly appearing species eliminated?

imm. little gull has red feet

imm. Bonaparte's has light primaries

Prior experience with this and similarly appearing species:

have seen this species on west coast

Books, illustrations and advice consulted and how did these influence this documentation?

This report was written from notes made during \_\_\_\_\_ after ☒ observation; from memory \_\_\_\_\_

PRINT NAME: Steve Soren SIGNATURE: Steve Soren DATE: 4-5-75  
Street Address: 2995 Eagle Way #7 Town and State: 4-5-75 ZIP: 80301

Return to: JACK REDDALL - 14450 South Alton Street, Englewood, Colorado 80110



Species: BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE

Rissa tridactyla

(Vernacular Name)

(Scientific Name-use binomial)

Date(s): 8 March 1975 (till 12 Mar) Time Bird Seen: 3:30 to 4:30

Locality: Seen from levee which separates Boyd and Horseshoe Lakes

Nearest Town: Loveland, Colorado County: Lincoln

Other observers who independently identified this bird:

NAME

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE

none

many others in following days

Optical Equipment: Swift 8.5X44 Binocs

If photographed, type of equipment used: Canon 200mm telephoto (photo submitted)

Light Conditions: excellent- sun at my back

Distance from bird (how measured): as close as 50 feet (estimate)

Number of Birds Seen: one Sex: unk Plumage: First-Winter plumage

Describe the bird's overall behavior and demeanor:

- 1.) resting on open water of Horseshoe Lake, and
- 2.) flying to and making aerial plunges below the water surface at the fishing bay of Boyd Lake.

A narrow road levee separates the two lakes at this fishing bay

Describe in great detail the bird's size, overall shape, plumage and color-pattern. Include details on shape of bill, wings and tail. Give particular emphasis to the marks you used to identify the bird. Reference to its resemblance in field guide descriptions is not enough. Describe what you actually saw in the field:

Overall size- slightly smaller than nearby Ringbilled Gulls

Plumage- First winter. (Note to records committee- technically speaking, there is no immature plumage. The species goes directly from Natal→First Winter→First Nuptial Plumage.)

The dorsal plumage pattern was very striking, (see accomp. sketch)

Bill- The yellowish-green bill was an indication that the bird was entering First Nuptial Plumage.

Field Characters noted at the time of observation were:

- 1.) Bold dorsal wing surface (Sabine Gull-like)
- 2.) Black cervical patch
- 3.) Blackish ear-patch
- 4.) Black terminal band on tail
- 5.) White body and underwings.

Also noted but not a field mark in this at this age were the black legs



Describe the bird's song or call, if heard, including method of delivery, i.e., from perch, in flight, etc:

Voice not heard

Describe the habitat in which you observed this bird:

Lakes (prairie)

How were similarly appearing species eliminated?

Red-legged Kittiwake- in similar plumage lacks the tail band and bold dark edgings on the wing coverts

Sabine's Gull- Adult winter lacks black cervical and tail marks  
First winter Sabine's has no black cervical mark and has brownish-gray back. Also the tail was not so deeply forked as a Sabine's Gull.)

Little Gull- Besides the Kittiwakes, the Little Gull is the only other species to show a cervical stripe or patch in sub-adult plumage. The similarity ends there. First winter Little Gulls have a back like a zebra-backed woodpecker.

Prior experience with this and similarly appearing species:

Many times along Pacific Coast.

Red-legged- No prev experience

Little Gull- Only once.

Sabine's Gull- Many times (even hand-held)

Books, illustrations and advice consulted and how did these influence this documentation?

Robbins, et al.-

This report was written from notes made during \_\_\_\_\_ after X observation; from memory \_\_\_\_\_

PRINT NAME: Bruce Webb

Street Address: 1090 A 11th St

SIGNATURE: Bruce Webb

DATE: 31 March 1955

Town and State: Boulder, Colo

ZIP: 80300

Return to: JACK REDDALL - 4450 South Alton Street, Englewood, Colorado 80110