

23-82-70
C. F. O. Sighting Record Report

A

Gudy Ward
9224 Baseline
Lafayette, CO
8002

Long Nod
sawcatcher

Species: Black-legged Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*)

Date: Dec. 5, 1982

Locality: Cherry Creek Reservoir (Arapahoe County?) Colo

Time seen: 1:30 p.m. (watched for 15-20 min.)

Other observers: Jack Riddell, Kathy Hawkins, Richard Bunn, Dany Ward, others (C. F. O. Field Trip).

Optical Equipment: 8x40 Bushnell binoculars

Light conditions: Excellent; clear; observed against the water and the sky

Distance from bird: 50 ft. to 100 yds (estimated)

No. of birds: 1 (immature plumage).

Behavior: Flight & turn-like but not as rapid; circled the N.E. corner of the reservoir, occasionally gliding down to the surface or alighting on the water. Not in company w/ other gulls; apparently not aggressive. Began on the water (rode high).

General Description:

Size: Smaller than Ring-billed Gull.

Head & bill: Head small and rounded with a dark ear spot; bill small and black.

Neck: Black crescent across nape

Back and wings: Mantle light gray; ^{leading}primaries dark with black diagonal mark from wrist to base of wing near rump giving a "W" image on upper surface; underwing light, tips darker. (See Fig.)

Belly: White

Tail: White with conspicuous black diamond-shaped band at tip (See Fig.)

Legs: Very dark

Other species eliminated:

Bonaparte's: ~~black~~ ^{nape} band or crescent conspicuous and this bird had the ~~black~~ "W" rather than brown and wing tips showed no white

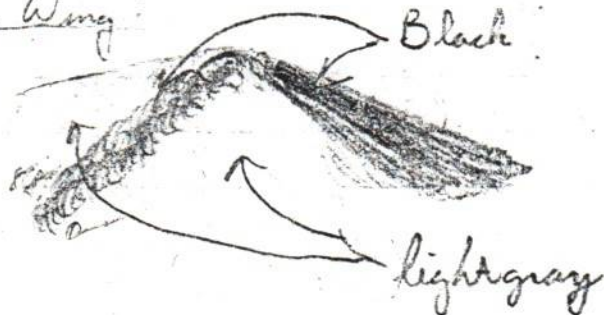
Red-legged Kittiwake: This bird had a black tail band and a black ~~diagonal line~~ ^{diagonal line} on the upper wing; underwing light colored.

(Used Peterson's Field Guide to the Western Birds, our only immediate reference on this species.)

This report is written in collaboration with Doug Ward from memory. I believe Kathy Hawkins took photographs. Another fellow w/ Richard Beun's group took photos.

Fig.

Upper Wing:



Tail:

