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COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD ☐UNUSUAL RECORD ☒

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

Species: Red-throated Loon | Gavia stellata
(Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name)Date(s): 5 November 1983Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: ♂ Plumage: 1st winterLocality: Tumalo Reservoir Elevation: ~3000'Nearest town: Crook County: LoganTime(s) observed: 11 AMDuration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): 1 hour plus

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

Diane Larson 4500 19th St #630 Boulder CO 80302Berry Knapp 4655 Osage Dr Boulder CO 80303

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

none

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

sun high in sky clear light usually good bird some times in glare area on rockOptical equipment used (e.g. power, types): 20x + 40x scopesDistance, and how measured: 200 ft est at 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):

Loon frequently - swam over large area of the lake held bill at an angle above horizontal seemed to sit lower in the water than Common Loon (about 25 Commons were on the lake for direct comparison)

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:

Bill: grayish appeared upturned along gonys, pointed head + neck gray-brown lighter than upper body (bar blending into white throat and face back brown + spotted - spots not as numerous as those of adult also seemed larger upper wing (seen when stretched) primaries + secondaries brownish - upper coverts brownish with white spotting

Description (continued):

under wing (seen when stretched) primaries + secondaries
brown wing lining white
size - smaller (noticeably) than common loon by
direct comparison

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:

irrigation reservoir

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?

Common loon - larger - head dark brown
Arctic loon - head ^{neck} gray with sharp definition between
face & throat - gonyx not upturned
neither of the above held bill above horizontal
Grebes - mostly smaller & show white wing patches

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

have seen many of all 3 species in California
some in Colo also have seen all US grebes

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

a) at time of observation: seabirds an identification guide
Peter Harrison

b) after observation:

This report was written from reports made during 13 Feb 1984, after observation from memory

Date and time report was written: 13 Feb 1984

Reporting observer: Steve Larson Signature: Steve Larson

Address: 4500 19th St #630 Boulder CO 80302

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