

A

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD UNUSUAL RECORD

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

Species: Red Phalarope | Phalaropus fulicarius
(Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name)Date(s): 20 September 1980Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: ? Plumage: non-breedingLocality: Chatfield State Recreation Area Elevation: _____Nearest town: Littleton County: Douglas-JeffersonTime(s) observed: 1500-1830Duration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): 3 1/2 hrs.

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

Mike Fitzpatrick

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):
light to side or behind observersOptical equipment used (e.g. power, types): 15-60x telescopeDistance, and how measured: minimum estimated distance - 50 yards

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 on the lake surface. No other phalaropes were in the area; the bird was totally solitary. It never flew. It allowed canoes and slowly-moving motorboats to pass within 10' of it, but it paid them scant attention and either watched them pass or continued feeding from the surface.

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:

A very pale phalarope. Underparts white. Back medium to light gray, appearing unmarked. Head white with a small dark auricular patch and gray of the back of the neck extending only as far as the nape and rear part of the crown (most of crown white). Bill black, shorter than head and distinctly stubby in appearance.

Description (continued):

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:

Plains reservoir

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?

The very pale, unmarked gray back should separate it from the Northern. Ear patch and shorter, thicker bill eliminate the Wilson's.

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

I have seen many Wilson's and Northern Phalaropes (including many in non-breeding plumages) in Colorado, and several non-breeding plumaged Reds in Colorado (and small numbers in California).

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

a) at time of observation: Standard field guides.

b) after observation:

This report was written from reports made during x, after observation _____ from memory _____
Date and time report was written: 13 February 1982

Reporting observer: Robert Andrews Signature: Robert Andrews

Address: 3260 W. 14th Ave., # 144, Denver, Colorado 80204

All reports will be maintained permanently at the address below:

Return to:

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