

2002-74

ACCEPTED

CFO-RC FILE X:

RESULTS:

Species: Red Phalarope (Common Name) *Phalaropus fulicaria* (Scientific Name)

Date(s) of occurrence: August 25, 2002

Number of birds seen: one Sex: Plumage: Adult basic

Exact location: SW corner of Milton Res. (remaining amount of water).

County: Weld Nearest town: Platteville Elevation: 4500 feet

Length of observation: about 15 minutes Time(s) of observation: 09:20 to 09:35

Other observers who saw the bird(s) with you: none

Other Observers who independently saw the bird(s): none

Light Conditions (quality; direction relative to bird(s); position: partly cloudy, winds light from the southwest. Sun behind the observer.

Optical equipment used: Kowa TSN4 20 x60 zoom

Distance from bird(s) (estimated unless otherwise noted): 75 to 100 yards.

Was bird(s) photographed? no If so, have you submitted photos?

Who took the photographs?

Describe the general and specific habitat in which the bird(s) occurred: reservoir

Describe the bird's behavior (flying, feeding, habits, behaviors used in identifying the Species or in supporting the identification): The bird was observed with other phalaropes swimming and feeding on the water, approximately 10 feet to 20 yards off shore. The bird was catching insects both on the water and in the air. The bird was flushed by a Prairie Falcon and was not relocated. (did not try)

Describe the bird in detail. This is the most important part of this report. Include the overall size and shape and how you placed the bird in the general group that you did. Give complete details of plumage, including head, throat, undersides, nape, back, wings and tail. Give particular emphasis to marks you used to identify the bird(s). Describe other important details, such as color and shape of bill, legs, eye, (etc.) that were important in making the identification. (Fill out this portion even if photographs are submitted; you may attach additional sheets, drawings, field sketches or copy field notes):

I first noticed the bird because of the lightness in color of this bird compared to the other swimming phalaropes. This bird also appeared slightly larger and bigger headed than the other Red-necked Phalaropes. The bird's nape, back and wings were an unstreaked, pale gray color. The crown was slightly darker gray than the nape. The fore crown, cheeks, throat, neck, breast and flanks were white. The eye was dark with a dark post ocular smudge or stripe. The bill was dark. The bill appeared much thicker and shorter than the surrounding Red-necked Phalaropes' bills. The belly, legs and vent area were not seen. Describe bird's call or song: none heard

Discuss similar species and how you eliminated them: I eliminated Red-necked Phalarope by the lack of streaking on the back and the bill structure. Wilson Phalarope was eliminated by the facial pattern and the bill structure.

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species? I seen one before in Colorado and a few on a couple of pelagic trips.

List books, guides, recordings or other sources consulted and how this influenced your identification (during and after observation): I reviewed both Sibly and Hayman (Shorebirds) immediately after the observation.

This report is from notes made during or after observation or later

X from memory

Date of written report: August 28, 2002.

Reporting observer: Signature: Ric Olson, 9450 N. Heather Dr. Castle Rock, Co. 80108