

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD ☒UNUSUAL RECORD ☐

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

Species: White Ibis | Eudocimus albus
(Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name)Date: July 20, 1985Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: unknown Plumage: immatureLocality: Neesopah Reservoir on the west side of Elevation: 3925' ±Nearest town: highway 287 from Neehosh Reservoir
Eads (10 miles SSE of Eads) County: KiowaTime observed: 5:30 PMDuration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): 5 minutes

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

NoneOther observers who saw the bird independently (give names, addresses, telephone numbers) at later datesJack Reddell, Thompson Marsh, Wade Kether, Bob Spencer, Larry Halsay

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

Afternoon sun coming diagonally toward me was a minor problem.Optical equipment used (e.g. power, types): 20X telescopeDistance, and how measured: 200 yards (estimated)If photographed, type of equipment and film: NoWho else photographed the bird? _____

Describe the bird's behavior (e.g. flying, feeding, or habits used in identifying):

Bird was feeding in shallow water with a
White-faced Ibis which provided an excellent chance for
size comparison of the two birds. The immature White Ibis
was obviously larger.

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:

The bird appeared to be a medium-sized heron when I
first saw it driving by on the highway. With the telescope
I could see that the bird was generally light brown
with a pink decurved Ibis bill. Its belly was white
and when it finally flew, there was an obvious

OVER

Description (continued): white rump with a triangular white area extending well up the back.

Describe the bird's song and call, if given, including method of delivery, (i.e. from perch, in flight, duration):

None that I could hear.

Describe the general and specific habitat in which you observed the bird:

Very shallow pond about 30 feet from shore where the water depth was 3-4"

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species? My only concern was that this could be an abnormally large young White-faced or Glossy Ibis. I looked at both the Golden Field Guide and National Geographic while I was watching the bird and convinced myself that neither the White-Faced nor Glossy Ibis young have any white on them.

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species? The pink bill also helped eliminate Glossy and White-Faced Ibis. I have seen several hundred Glossy & White-faced Ibis and about 10 White Ibis and a few Wood Storks (straight bill). I have never seen an immature White Ibis before.

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

a) at time of observation: Golden guide and National Geographic

b) after observation: Nothing further - but confirmation from social experts was comforting. I had fears of another ^{partly} hypothesis ^{partly} from memory X

This report was written from reports made during X, after observation X
Date and time report was written: July 30, 1985

Reporting observer: L. W. Dan Bridges Signature: L. W. Dan Bridges

Address: 1925 S. Vaughn Way # 207 Aurora, Co. 80014

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CITY PARK
DENVER, CO 80205

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD ☒UNUSUAL RECORD ☐

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

Species: WHITE IBIS EUDOCIMUS ALBUS
(Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name)Date(s): 7/28/85Number of birds seen: ONE Sex: UNKNOWN Plumage: IMMATURELocality: NEE SO PAH RESERVOIR Elevation: ~4000'Nearest town: BETWEEN EADS AND LAMAR County: KIOWATime(s) observed: 9:30 am to 11 amDuration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): APPROX ONE HOUR

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

MARK JAWES, BARRY KNAPP, STEVE LARSON, VIC ZERBI.

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

DAN BRIDGES PLUS OTHERS

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

BRIGHT SUNLIGHTOptical equipment used (e.g. power, types): 7x50 BINOCs 20-40 X TELESCOPEDistance, and how measured: 20-100 YARDS (ESTIMATED)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):

MOSTLY SEEN FEEDING IN MARSHY AREA IN SW CORNER OF RESERVOIR.SEEN FLYING TWICE, ONCE FOR APPROX 1 MINUTE, ONCE FOR APPROX 2 MINUTES.

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:

THE BIRD WAS WITH A LARGE FLOCK OF ADULT AND IMMATURE WHITE-FACED IBISES.WHEN STANDING THIS BIRD STOOD OUT FROM THE OTHERS BECAUSE a) IT WAS SLIGHTLY,BUT NOTICEABLY, LARGER THAN THE REST b) MOST OBVIOUS WAS THE LIGHT COLORED NECK,

Description (continued):

IT WAS A LIGHT MOTTLED BROWN, WHEREAS THE WHITE-FACED IBIS HAS ALL DARK PLUMAGE AND
3) THE LONG DECURVED BILL WAS CLEARLY ^{LIGHT} RED ALL ALONG ITS LENGTH, AS OPPOSED TO DARK BROWN/RED.
WHEN THE BIRDS FLEW, THE DIFFERENCES WERE EXTREMELY OBVIOUS:- THE WHITE IBIS HAD A
BRIGHT WHITE RUMP, WHITE BREAST AND BELLY, AND WAS WHITE UNDER THE WINGS. THE UPPER
WINGS WERE COMPLETELY BROWN. THE WHITE-FACED IBIS HAD NO WHITE PLUMAGE AT ALL.
THE WHITE IBIS HAD RED LEGS THAT WERE, MAYBE, A LITTLE LIGHTER THAN WHITE-FACED IBIS LEGS.

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:

IN MARSHY AREAS SURROUNDING A RESERVOIR ON THE HIGH COLORADO PLAINS.

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?

WHITE-FACED AND GLOSSY IBIS WERE BOTH ELIMINATED BY WHITE a) RUMP b) BREAST
AND BELLY AND c) UNDERWINGS. HEAD WAS LIGHTER THAN OTHER IMMATURE IBISES.
LIGHTER RED OF MORE STRONGLY DECURVED BILL AND, POSSIBLY, LEG COLOR.

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

HAVE SEEN LARGE FLOCKS OF THIS SPECIES ON 2 TRIPS TO FLORIDA AND ONE TO TEXAS.
HAVE SEEN GLOSSY IBIS SEVERAL TIMES IN EAST USA AND EUROPE.

VERY FAMILIAR WITH WHITE-FACED IBIS.

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

a) at time of observation: NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC FIELD GUIDE

b) after observation:

This report was written from reports made during X, after observation from memory
Date and time report was written: 7/29/85

Reporting observer: PETER R. GENT Signature: Peter R. Gent

Address: 55, SOUTH 35th ST. BOULDER, CO 80303.

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