ACCEPTED 7-0

CFO-RC FILE#: 1998-11

recd 7-2-98

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS
SIGHT RECORD FORM

PHOTOS x2

SPECIES: **WHITE IBIS (Eudocimus albus)**

(This bird is likely the same bird seen in Bayfield, which according to the Rare bird report, was seen in Bayfield up to May 2, 1998.)

DATE(S) OF OCCURRENCE: May 5, 1998
NUMBER(S) OF BIRDS SEEN: one SEX: unknown PLUMAGE: Adult

EXACT LOCATION:Blanca Wetlands COUNTY:Alamosa NEAREST TOWN: Alamosa
ELEVATION: 7,600

LENGTH OF OBSERVATION: Twenty minutes TIMES OF OBSERVATION: 530-600pm

OTHER OBSERVERS WHO INDEPENDENTLY SAW THE BIRD(S): John Schwarz, BLM Biologist
LIGHT CONDITIONS (QUALITY, RELATION TO BIRDS POSITION) Sunny, breezy

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT USED: Swift Trylites, 8X40. Swift Lynx spotting scope, 20-60X
DISTANCE FROM BIRD (ESTIMATED UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED). as close as 150 feet.

WAS THE BIRD PHOTOGRAPHED? Yes WHO TOOK THE PHOTOGRAPHS? JR

DESCRIBE THE GENERAL AND SPECIFIC HABITAT IN WHICH THE BIRD OCCURRED: It sat on the edge of a bulrush mat, about 1 foot from the waters edge.

DESCRIBE THE BIRDS BEHAVIOR (FLYING, FEEDING, HABITS, BEHAVIORS USED IN IDENTIFYING THE SPECIES OR IN SUPPORT OF THE IDENTIFICATION): Standing, preening, flying.

DESCRIBE THE BIRD IN DETAIL. THIS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF THIS REPORT. GIVE PARTICULAR EMPHASIS TO THE MARKS/FEATURES YOU USED TO IDENTIFY THE BIRD. Lisa spotted the bird after John Schwarz called us and asked us to take a look at it. It was the size of a white-faced ibis, and not too different than nearby black-crowned night-herons. Birds was all white while standing and preening. Long neck, and long, decurved red bill, turning darker toward tip. The base of the red bill had red skin that encompassed the entire eye, ending behind it in a slight point. Eye was light colored. Legs, through some weeds, showed red color. As we approached the bird to get backlight, it and a hundred black crowned night-herons took to flight. At that point, we observed white wings tipped with black. See sketch drawn immediately after observation that day. See photos.

DESCRIBE SONG/CALLS IF ANY: None

DISCUSS SIMILAR SPECIES AND HOW YOU ELIMINATED THEM: Not white/albino phase of other Ibis because of red facial skin that envelopes eye.

WHAT IS YOUR PRIOR EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND SIMILARLY APPEARING SPECIES? Have seen numerouis times in Texas and Florida.

LIST BOOKS, GUIDES, RECORDINGS, OR OTHER SOURCES CONSULTED AND HOW THIS INFLUENCED YOUR IDENTIFICATION (DURING AND AFTER OBSERVATION). National Geographic.

HOW RARE IS THIS RECORD FOR THIS AREA? This bird would be the first San Luis Valley record and only the 3rd or 4th State Record (Andrews and Righter, 1992.). Bird would be Latilong first for #25 San Luis Block (Colorado Bird Distribution Latilong Study, 1987).

DATE OF WRITTEN REPORT May 17, 1998.

REPORTING OBSERVER John and Lisa Rawinski SIGNATURES John J Rawinski Lisa J. Rawinski

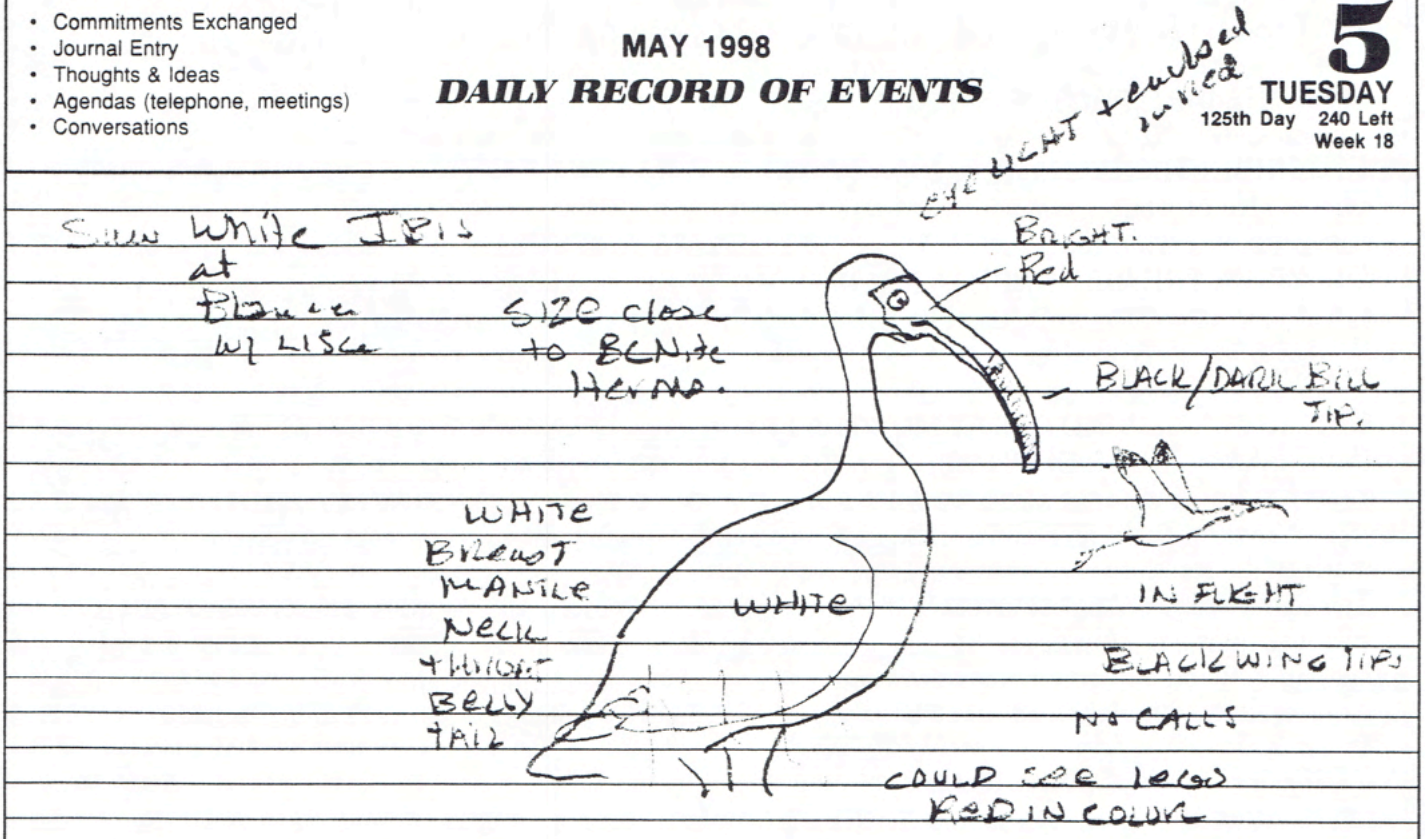
SEND REPORT TO: MARK [illegible]ANOS, 10 SEDUM COURT, PUEBLO, CO 81001

- Commitments Exchanged
- Journal Entry
- Thoughts & Ideas
- Agendas (telephone, meetings)
- Conversations

MAY 1998

DAILY RECORD OF EVENTS

5 **TUESDAY**
125th Day 240 Left
Week 18



✓ rec'd 11/98
PHOTOS x3
1998-11

SPECIES: WHITE IBIS (*Eudocimus albus*)

DATE: May 1, 1998

TIME(S) OF OBSERVATION: 07:00-07:25am (MDT)

LOCATION/COUNTY: East of Bayfield; La Plata County

HABITAT: Small, man-made pond in an open, grassy valley surrounded by Ponderosa Pine

OTHER OBSERVERS WHO INDEPENDENTLY IDENTIFIED THIS BIRD:

Norm Erthal, 7761 Everett Way, Arvada, Colorado 80005
Gene Rutherford, 2593 South Peoria Street, Aurora, Colorado 80014

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT I USED: Zeiss 10x40 binoculars
B&L Elite 77mm spotting scope

WEATHER CONDITIONS:

SKY: Clear **WIND:** Calm **TEMP:** 35-40F

BIRD/SUN ORIENTATION: Observer faced south and the sun was shining upon the bird from the left (east).

DISTANCE FROM BIRD AND HOW MEASURED: 40-100yds (est.)

NUMBER OF BIRDS SEEN: 1

SEX: Unknown

PLUMAGE: Adult

BEHAVIOR AND DEMEANOR:

This bird was about the size of a White-faced Ibis (although none were available for comparison). Fairly "skittish", not allowing a close approach. The bird was found feeding (on what I don't know) in a small pond east of Bayfield. Present also at this pond was a Least Sandpiper, a Lesser Yellowlegs, several Mallards, and a Bufflehead. The ibis remained by itself (not associating with other species) during the entire observation period. We tried to inch our way closer for photographs but the bird would not allow us to do so and even flew to the far side of the pond. We then left it alone not wanting to disturb it further.

HEAD & NECK: immaculate white

EYES & LORES: bright red eyes and lores

LOWER & UPPER MANDIBLES: long and decurved; pinkish red with the distal half being darker (almost grayish)

LEGS & FEET: pinkish red; feet not noticed

UPPERPARTS: immaculate white

UNDERPARTS: immaculate white

RETRICES: immaculate white

WINGS: white with black primaries (seen only when the bird flew to the other side of the pond).

UPPERWINGS: White with the outer three or four primaries being black.

UNDERWINGS: Not particularly noticed.

VOCALIZATION: none heard

ELIMINATION OF SIMILARLY APPEARING SPECIES:

White-faced Ibis - Is not white. Albino wouldn't have bright red legs, facial skin and bill.
Glossy Ibis - Is not white. Albino wouldn't have bright red legs, facial skin and bill.
Long-billed Curlew - Is not white. Does not have red legs, facial skin and bill.
White Egrets - Don't have red, decurved bills or red legs.

PRIOR EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND SIMILARLY APPEARING SPECIES:

Have seen several White Ibis in Texas and Florida (the most recent being less that two months prior (March) in Florida).

Have seen thousands of White-faced Ibis in Colorado.
Have seen several Glossy Ibis in Florida this past March.
Have seen hundreds of Long-billed Curlews in Colorado over the last several years.
Have seen many Snowy, Cattle, and Great Egrets in Colorado as well as a few immature Little Blue Herons.

BOOKS, ILLUSTRATIONS AND ADVICE CONSULTED THAT INFLUENCED THIS REPORT:

None needed.

NAME:

Joey M. Kellner
8612 West Hinsdale Place
Littleton, Colorado 80128

SIGNATURE: Joey M Kellner

DATE: 8/30/98

APPENDIX III

CFO-ORC FILE # 1998-11

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD [ ] UNUSUAL RECORD [ ] recd 6-1-98 ✓

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

Species: White Ibis (Vernacular Name) / Eudocimus albus (Scientific Name)

Date(s): April 15, 1998

Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: ____ Plumage: Breeding

Latilong: ____ Distribution Code: ____ Habitat Code: ____

Locality: Saul's Creek - on reservoir Elevation: ____

Nearest town: Bayfield, CO County: LaPlata

Time(s) observed: 9am on 4/15/98 - 10am on 4/18/98 - 3:30pm on 4/29/98

Duration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): 15 min to 1 hr periods

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

Martha Walker, 1005 Balsam Dr., Durango, CO 81301 (970)-247-5170

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):

Clear morning light - clear afternoon light

Optical equipment used (e.g. power, types): Binoculrs - 8x25

Distance and how measured: 100 yds. - estimate

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):

Feeding, resting on shore. Short flights shore to shore.

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 observed in the field:

Long, curved red/orange bill; Red/orange legs; White plumage; black wing tips visible in flight.

Description (continued): _____

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:

Shores of small reservoir in meadow edged with Ponderosa woods.

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?

Bill shape, color, and leg color. Plumage color.

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

This is the only white ibis I've ever seen. I see white-faced ibis's in this area during migrations.

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

a) At time of observation: _____

b) After observation: National Geographic Society Field Guide - Birds of N.A.

This report was written from reports made during _____, after observation _____, from memory ✓

Date and time report was written: April 30, 1998

Reporting observer: LORETTA ANNALA Signature: Loretta Annala

Address: 122 C.R. 510 DURANGO, CO 81301

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