

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS SIGHT RECORD REPORT

☒ RARE OR UNUSUAL RECORD ☐ NEW STATE RECORD

CFO-ORC FILE # 16-73-

Accepted J.R. 12/9/73

Species: WHOOPING CRANE

Grus americana

(Vernacular Name)

(Scientific Name-use binomial)

Date(s): November 3, 1973

Time Bird Seen: 3:03 p.m.

to 3:05 p.m.

Locality: 2015 35th Avenue

Nearest Town: Greeley, Colorado

County:

Other observers who identified this bird:

NAME

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE

Ann Copeland

2015 35th Avenue

356-7999

Optical Equipment: None

Light Conditions: Solid gray-white sky just before snow commenced

Distance from Bird (how measured): 40 yards at closest; about 1/4 mile at farthest

Number of Birds Seen: 5 Sex: ? Plumage: 4 adults; 1 juvenile

Overall Appearance and Size: 5 large, lanky birds; 4 white with black-tipped wings and 1 grayish white all over;

Detailed Description (describe only what was actually observed in the field):

Bill (shape and color):

Legs (shape and color): long legs trailing behind

Crown and Forehead:

Nape:

Face:

Eye (color):

Throat: long necks

Breast and Sides: White

Belly and Flanks: White

Undertail Coverts: White

Back:

Wings:

Underwings: long, white wings with black tips (black on tips only, did not extend

Rump: ~~Undertail Coverts:~~ along back edges (wings)

Upper Side of Tail:

Under Side of Tail:

Shape of Tail:

Voice: Silent

Behavior: Birds approached from west, flying purposefully in a compact group, headed straight east, about 40 feet above cornfield and pasture. The group veered slightly ~~westward~~ southeast as they passed us and continued steady flight to the southeast, gain

Prior Experience with this Species: about 30 feet more altitude before disappearing.

Grew up in North Platte, Nebraska, with much exposure to Sandhill Cranes. Have seen Rosie and Crip in San Antonio Zoo, but no other living Whooping Cranes before.

How Were Similarly Appearing Species Eliminated?

At such close range, large, white cranes with black wing tips can't be confused with anything else!

This Report was Written From: Notes made during ~~immediately~~ after x observation; Memory

Signed: *[Signature]* Street Address: 2015 35th Ave

Date Prepared: 20 Nov 1973 Town and State: Greeley, Colo ZIP 80632

Return to: JACK REDDALL - 4450 South Alton Street, Englewood, Colorado 80110

(USE REVERSE SIDE OF SHEET OR ADDITIONAL PAGES IF NECESSARY)