

Species: Paracitic Jaeger (Vernacular Name) Stercorarius paraciticus (Scientific Name-use binomial)

Date(s): SEPTEMBER 13, 1975 Time Bird Seen: 2:10 pm to 2:15 pm

Locality: LAKE MEREDITH

Nearest Town: ORDWAY County: CROWLEY

Other observers who independently identified this bird:

NAME

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE

NONE TO MY KNOWLEDGE

Optical Equipment: 7x35 BUSHNELL BINOCULARS AND 20-45X BUSHNELL SCOPE

If photographed, type of equipment used: _____

Light Conditions: LIGHT DIRECTLY OVERHEAD - BIRD IN GOOD LIGHT IN THE AIR AND ON GROUND

Distance from bird (how measured): 30 yds Estimated

Number of Birds Seen: 1 Sex: ? Plumage: DARK Adult

Describe the bird's overall behavior and demeanor:

A DARK BIRD ABOUT THE SIZE OF A RING-BILLED GULL CHASING FRANKLIN'S GULLS AND SHOREBIRDS ALONG THE LAKE SHORE. IT CHASED A RING-BILLED GULL OF A DEAD CARD ABOUT 30 YDS. IN FRONT OF ME. THE SIZE WAS COMPARED THIS WAY.

Describe in great detail the bird's size, overall shape, plumage and color-pattern. Include details on shape of bill, wings and tail. Give particular emphasis to the marks you used to identify the bird. Reference to its resemblance in field guide descriptions is not enough. Describe what you actually saw in the field:

WHILE SCOUTING FOR A SHOREBIRD BANDING SIGHT ON THE NORTHWEST END OF LAKE MEREDITH, I NOTED A LARGE CONCENTRATION OF FRANKLIN'S GULLS (3-4,000) SWIMMING DIRECTLY SW OF ME. AT ABOUT 1/4 MILE THE BIRDS TOOK FLIGHT ALL AT ONCE SO, I THOUGHT PEREGRINE FALCON. I THEN NOTICED A VERY DARK BIRD FLYING JUST SOUTH OF THE FRANKLIN'S GULLS. THE BIRD WAS LARGER THAN THE FRANKLIN'S AND FLEW DIRECTLY AT ME, NOW ~~STANDARD~~ SCARING SHOREBIRDS. THE BIRD THEN CHASED A RING-BILLED GULL OF A DEAD CARD. THIS IS WHEN I NOTED THE SIZE WAS ALMOST EQUAL TO THE RING-BILLED GULL - I THEN TOOK DOWN THESE NOTES WHILE IT FLED ON THE CARD FOR ABOUT 30 YDS. HEAD - DARK BROWN CROWN - darker than the rest of the head. (slate-brown)

eye - dark Bill - darkish - slightly hooked at tip. Nape - same color as head but slightly lighter. BACK - Dark brown (nape to rump) wings - folded - darker than back and breast

tips extended beyond tail (except point) Breast - A dark brown, slightly lighter than back

THROAT - SAME COLOR AS BREAST FLANKS & REILY - SAME COLOR AS BREAST LEGS - DARK

THE BIRD THEN FLEW EAST ALONG THE LAKE SHORE AT ABOUT 25 FT. ABOVE THE GROUND.

I THEN TOOK THESE NOTES: WINGS - ~~WAS~~ POINTED LIKE FALCONS - BENT ABRUPTLY AT WRISTS.

UNDERWINGS - DARK BROWN - WHITISH AT BASE OF PRIMARIES - RUNNING ABOUT 1/2 WAY OUT TO TIPS.

TAIL - UNDER SIDE DARK BROWN - WEDGE-SHAPED WITH ~~AT ABOUT~~ ABOUT A 3 INCH CENTRAL POINT EXTENDING

FROM THE REST OF THE MAIN TAIL FEATHERS.

(OVER)



tail

Describe the bird's song or call, if heard, including method of delivery, i.e., from perch, in flight, etc:

NONE HEARD

Describe the habitat in which you observed this bird:

LAKE (PRAIRE)

How were similarly appearing species eliminated?

POMARINE JAeger - TAIL FEATHERS BROAD & TWISTED TO MAKE THE TIP LOOK BLUNT (NOT POINTED)
LARGER SIZE COMPARED TO RING-BILLED GULL

LONG-TAILED JAeger - LONG CENTRAL TAIL POIN FEATHERS IN ADULT
WHITE ON PRIMARIES EXTENDS FARTHER TOWARD TIPS.

SKUA - LARGE SIZE, NO CENTRAL POINTS ON TAIL

Prior experience with this and similarly appearing species:

I've seen Pomarine jaeger in Colo. and California in 1973

I saw several parasitic jaegers in Cal. in 1973 on a Pelagic

I saw a single long-tailed jaeger in Cal. in 1973 on a pelagic (very far off)

I haven't seen a Skua.

Books, illustrations and advice consulted and how did these influence this documentation?
WESTERN FIELD GUIDE & BIRDS OF N. AMERICA WERE USE DURING OBSERVATION.

NOTE WERE WRITTEN WHILE OBSERVING THE BIRD.

This report was written from notes made during X after observation; from memory

PRINT NAME: VAN A. TRUAN

SIGNATURE: Van A. Truan

DATE: NOV. 3, 1974

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