

☒ RARE OR UNUSUAL RECORD☐ NEW STATE RECORD☒ ACCEPTED ☐ REJECTEDSpecies: PARASITIC JAEGER
(Vernacular Name)STERCORARIUS PARASITICUS
(Scientific Name-use binomial)Date(s): 13-14 AUGUST, 1977 Time Bird Seen: 9:00AM-9:15(4/5) to 2:30-2:40PM(8/14)Locality: UNION RESERVOIRNearest Town: LONGMONTCounty: WELD

Other observers who independently identified this bird:

NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
MIKE MOULTON	1328 So. COFFMAN ST #3 LONGMONT, COLO.	772-0283
STEVE LARSON	BOULDER, COLO.	
BOB ANDREWS	DENVER, COLO.	

Optical Equipment: 10X50 BINOC'S, 15-60X 60MM SCOPE

If photographed, type of equipment used: _____

Light Conditions: GOOD - FULL SUN, SOME GLAREDistance from bird (how measured): 150 FT TELESCOPE RANGEFINDERNumber of Birds Seen: 1 Sex: ? Plumage: ADULT - INTERMEDIATE PHASE

Describe the bird's overall behavior and demeanor:

BIRD FIRST NOTICED AS IT HAWKED A FLOCK OF GULLS ON A MUDFLAT. IT ATTACKED A FLYING ~~FERRIS~~ RING-BILLED GULL WHICH DISGORGED A RECENT MEAL; IT THEN ALIT ON THE MUDFLAT APPARENTLY TO EAT ITS PRIZE. IT RESTED ON THE MUDFLAT FOR ABOUT 5 MINUTES, DURING WHICH TIME IT OFTEN SHOOK AN APPARENTLY BAD FOOT. IT SWAM BUOYANTLY, TAIL HIGH OUT OF THE WATER, NECK UPRIGHT. IN FLIGHT IT WAS EXTREMELY SWIFT, EITHER FLYING WITH SHALLOW, ROWING, FALCONLIKE BEATS, OR SOARING ON SET WINGS. WHEN SOARING, THE JOINT PRODUCED A HUMPED APPEARANCE, AND A PRONOUNCED ANGLE AT THE CARPUS. IT CHANGED DIRECTION VERY RAPIDLY, WITH MUCH TAIL ACTION. NOT UNLIKE FRIGATEBIRD WHEN ATTACKING GULLS.

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:

SIZE - SLIGHTLY SMALLER THAN RING-BILLED GULL (DIRECT COMPARISON)
SHAPE - LIKE PRAIRIE FALCON - POINTED WINGS RATHER SMALL HEAD, AMPLE TAIL BODY RATHER SLENDER - VERY STREAMLINED OVERALL

HEAD - BLACKISH CROWN FROM BASE OF BILL POSTERIORLY TO OCCIPUT, VENTROLATERALLY TO CENTER OF EYE. BUFFY NAPE AND AREA BELOW BLACKISH CAP. THROAT, LOWER CHEEKS WHITISH.

MANTLE - DUSKY BROWN WITH DARKER PRIMARIES. RUMP AND UPPER SIDE OF TAIL SAME SHADE AS BACK, INNER WINGS. UPPERSIDE OF WING WITH A SMALL WHITE FLASH AT THE BASES OF THE OUTERMOST 2 OR 3 PRIMARIES. WINGS RATHER LONG, NARROW, QUITE POINTED, AND WITH A DISTINCT ~~CROOK AS CARP~~ SWEPT BACK LOOK TO THE OUTER WING (OWING TO BEND AT CARPAL JOINT).

UNDERPARTS - WHITISH, WITH A BROWN BAND ACROSS BREAST (SLIGHTLY PALER THAN MANTLE) AND BROWN UNDERTAIL AND UNDERTAIL COVERTS. THE BROWN BREAST MARKING WAS AN EXTENSION OF THE ANTERIOR MANTLE. UNDERSIDE OF WINGS NOT SEEN ESPECIALLY WELL, BUT SEEMED TO BE LARGELY BROWN.

TAIL - WEDGE-SHAPED, AMPLE, AND THE 2 CENTRAL FEATHERS WERE POINTED; THESE 2 FEATHERS EXTENDED ABOUT TWO INCHES BEYOND REST OF TAIL.

BILL - BLACKISH, SLIGHTLY HOOKED AND WITH A SWELLING ON DISTAL PORTION OF CULMEN.

EYE, LEGS, FEET - BLACKISH.

AT REST - WINGS EXTENDED BEYOND TIP OF MAIN PART OF TAIL, BUT DID NOT QUITE (OVER) REACH TIPS OF ^{ELONGATED} CENTRAL FEATHERS.

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:

PRAIRIE RESERVOIR; HAWKING GULLS OVER MUDFLAT, SWIMMING IN WATER NEAR SHORE, STANDING ON MUDFLAT, SOARING OVER FIELDS NEAR LAKE.

How were similarly appearing species eliminated?

POMARINE JAEGER - ADULT MORE HEAVILY BUILT, TAIL WITHOUT SHARPLY POINTED CENTRAL FEATHERS, MORE WHITE IN WING, LARGER THAN RING-BILLED GULL

LONG-TAILED JAEGER - SIZE OF FRANKLIN'S GULL, ADULT WITH VERY LONG CENTRAL TAIL FEATHERS, UNMARKED CHEST

LAUGHING GULL - 1ST WINTER BIRD WITH PALE UNDERWINGS, WITHOUT WHITE FLASH IN PRIMARIES, WITH DIFFERENT BILL, TAIL, BUT WITH SIMILAR SIZE AND HABITS (THOUGH NOT NEARLY SUCH A RAPID BIRD IN FLIGHT).

Prior experience with this and similarly appearing species:

HAVE OBSERVED MAJOR PLUMAGES AND BEHAVIORAL PATTERNS OF LAUGHING GULLS, BUT HAVE NEVER BEFORE SEEN A JAEGER.

Books, illustrations and advice consulted and how did these influence this documentation?

THE DOCUMENTATION WAS WRITTEN FROM NOTES MADE DURING OBSERVATION. THE BIRD WAS IDENTIFIED IN THE FIELD, AND THE CONFIRMATION CAME FROM MR. LARSON, MR. MOULTON, PETERSON, ROBBINS, ET AL, AND MR. STALLCUP'S "PELAGIC BIRDS OF MONTEREY BAY, CALIFORNIA" WESTERN BIRDS VOL. 7, No. 4, 1976 PP 113-136.

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

PRINT NAME: PETER MOULTON SIGNATURE: Peter Moulton DATE: 15 AUGUST, 1977
Street Address: 1328 So. COFFMAN ST #3 Town and State: LOWMONT, COLO. ZIP: 80120

Return to: JACK REDDALL - 14150 South Alton Street, Englewood, Colorado 80110

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD REPORT
☒ RARE OR UNUSUAL RECORD ☐ NEW STATE RECORD

CFO-ORC FILE NO. 22-77-59
☒ ACCEPTED ☐ REJECTED

Species: PARASITIC JAEGER

Stercorarius parasiticus

(Vernacular Name)

(Scientific Name-use binomial)

Date(s): 13 August 1977 Time Bird Seen: 9:00 A.M. to 9:15 A.M.

Locality: Union Reservoir, Weld County

Nearest Town: Longmont, Boulder County County: Weld

Other observers who independently identified this bird:

NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
<u>Pete Moulton</u>	<u>1328 S. Coffman #3 Longmont, 80501</u>	<u>772-0281</u>
<u>Steve Larson</u>	<u>Boulder</u>	
<u>Cam Edgerton</u>	<u>(See Steve)</u>	

Optical Equipment: 20x Bushnell Spotting Scope

If photographed, type of equipment used: _____

Light Conditions: Excellent

Distance from bird (how measured): 100 feet; closest approach range finder

Number of Birds Seen: 1 Sex: Unk. Plumage: Near Adult (light phase)

Describe the bird's overall behavior and demeanor:

First seen when it was chasing ring-billed Gull. It chased the gull for a few seconds & then landed on a beach in front of us. It faced us and fed briefly. It had a bad left foot.

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:

It was about the size of a Ring-billed Gull

It had a dark brown cap from base of bill to eye to nape

Bronze upper breast, brownish back including dorsal of wings. Primaries grayish on dorsal surface.

Bill dark,

Tail "spike-like"

Feet black & webbed.

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

not heard

Describe the habitat in which you observed this bird:

Prairie Reservoir.

How were similarly appearing species eliminated?

Pomarine Jaeger - larger

Long-tailed Jaeger - Smaller

Tail shape & size were what I went on for this identification. I do not have very much experience with Jaegers (see below).

Prior experience with this and similarly appearing species:

None with Parasitic in this plumage.

I've seen a few Pomarine Jaegers, & one probable dk. Parasitic.

Books, illustrations and advice consulted and how did these influence this documentation?

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

PRINT NAME: Mike Moulton SIGNATURE: Mike Moulton DATE: 17 Aug. 1977
Street Address: 1328 S. Coffman #3 Town and State: Longmont, Colo ZIP: 80501

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