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COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD UNUSUAL RECORD

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

Species: Pomarine Jaeger
(Vernacular Name)Stercorarius pomarinus
(Scientific Name)Date(s): November 23, 1985Number of birds seen: one Sex: undetermined Plumage: adult light phaseLocality: Cherry Creek State Recreation Elevation: ~5300'Nearest town: Aurora, Colorado County: _____Time(s) observed: 2:15pm to 4:30pmDuration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): 2 hoursOther observers who saw the bird with you (give names, addresses, telephone numbers):
found by Wade Leitner 14079 E. Standford Cr. 107, Aurora, CO 80015 (699-7281)

many observers (CFO gull clinic fieldtrip)

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):
good, sun at back of observersOptical equipment used (e.g. power, types): 20x, 30x spotting scope; 7x50 BinocsDistance, and how measured: ~100meters to 1 km., estimatedIf photographed, type of equipment and film: N/AWho else photographed the bird? N/ADescribe the bird's behavior (e.g. flying, feeding, or habits used in identifying):
Seen chasing Ring-billed and California Gulls, once chased by Herring Gull. Flight
strong and direct, much like a very large falcon. Wing beat slower, more deep and
steady than Parasitic JaegerDescribe 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 il-
lustrations is not enough. Describe only what you actually observe in the field:Dark brown cap, hindneck and rest of head, throat, and underparts nearly
white, except dark yoke or breast band. Undertail coverts and axillaries
barred with dark. Tail dark brown. White bases to primaries very pronounced.Primaries and retrices very abraded and worn, though elongated spoon
shaped central retrices observed by Wade Leitner previous to my observation.
Wings appeared broader, body more heavy (barrel chested appearance), larger

Description (continued):

head, and bill appeared longer than Parasitic Jaeger.

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

Describe the general and specific habitat in which you observed the bird:
large mostly unfrozen reservoir

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species? Parasitic Jaeger
overall bulk, broad wings, heavy appearance to body, bill proportionately longer,
tail broader, more white in wings, heavier and more steady flight.

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

Many seen, of both species, off California coast August 1985. One adult Pomarine,
same plumage earlier this fall at Jackson Reservoir, CO. One immature dark
phase Parasitic Jaeger at Cherry Creek Reservoir, one month earlier or so.

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

a) at time of observation:

b) after observation:

This report was written from reports made during X, after observation _____ from memory
Date and time report was written: 1/21/86 8:00pm

Reporting observer: Laurens R. Halsey

Signature Laurens R. Halsey

Address: 6422 Bluebird Ave. Longmont, CO 80501

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