

WPA  
(3 photos)**Colorado Field Ornithologists Sight Record Form**

(this is a two page report-click at the bottom for page 2)

CFO-RC FILE X:

RESULTS: ACCEPT 7-0

Print this page and then fill out. Attach photographs and additional pages if necessary.

Species (please include common and scientific name): **Pomarine Jaeger**Date(s) of Observation: **June 17, 1999**Number of birds seen: **ONE** Sex: **UNK** Plumage: **Adult alternate**Exact location: **Stagecoach Reservoir**County: **Garfield** Nearest town: **Oak Creek** Elevation: **7500 ft.**Length of observation: **2.5 hrs** Time(s) of observation: **1300 - 1530 p.m.**Other observers who saw the bird(s) with you: **None**Other Observers who independently saw the bird(s): **None**Light Conditions (quality; direction relative to bird(s); position): **100% overcast, sun above & behind**Optical equipment used: **Zeiss bins. 7x42 bird throughout observation**  
**Kowa scope 20-60 zoom**Distance from bird(s) (estimated unless otherwise noted): **200 m at closest, usually at 300-400 meters**Was bird(s) photographed? **Yes** If so, have you submitted photos? **Yes**Who took the photographs? **I did.**

Describe the general and specific habitat in which the bird(s) occurred:

**Entirely sitting on or flying above open water of reservoir.**

Describe the bird's behavior (flying, feeding, habits, behaviors used in identifying the species or in supporting the identification):

**Sat on water for approx. 95% of obs. time alone. Rest of 5% it was observed in flight (or not located) around reservoir. During this time it was not observed harassing or "mingling" with other species (i.e. entirely solitary).**[click here for page 2 of this form / Back to the CBRC Home Page Links](#)

## Colorado Field Ornithologists Sight Record Form

page 2

Describe the bird in detail. This is the most important part of this report. Include the overall size

and shape and how you placed the bird in the general group that you did. Give complete details of plumage, including head, throat, undersides, nape, back, wings and tail. Give particular emphasis to marks you used to identify the bird(s). Describe other important details, such as color and shape of bill, legs, eye, (etc.) that were important in making the identification. (Fill out this portion even if photographs are submitted; you may attach additional sheets, drawings, field sketches or copy field notes):

See attachment

Describe birds call or song: None

Discuss similar species and how you eliminated them:

See attachment

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species? Have observed all 3 jaeger species on west coast pelagics & long-tailed Jaeger on breeding grounds in Alaska.

List books, guides, recordings or other sources consulted and how this influenced your identification (during and after observation): Nat. Geo. Field Guide to N.A. Birds via phone conversation with Rich Levad immediately after observation. This did not affect my

This report is from notes made during  or after  observation, identification, only reaffirmed or later from memory

Date of written report: 7-21-99

Reporting observer: Doug Faulkner

Signature: Doug Faulkner

Address: c/o Colorado Bird Observatory  
13401 Piccadilly Rd  
Brighton, CO 80601

Send report to:  
Colorado Birds Record Committee  
c/o Bill Lisowsky  
2919 Silverplume Dr.  
Ft. Collins, Co. 80526

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Species: Pomarine Jaegar  
Plumage: Adult (light-morph)  
Date: June 17, 1999  
Loc: Stagecoach Res., Routt County  
Obs: Doug Faulkner

#### Species Description:

This description is taken from notes (attached) taken during observation of the bird. Overall size appeared to be similar to a medium-sized gull, although it remained solitary during the entire observation period and I was unable to compare it directly to other species. There were Ring-billed, California, and Franklin's Gulls on the reservoir and my size estimate is based on observing those species at a similar distance as the jaegar. The head consisted of a dark brownish/black hood that extended from the upper chin, along the cheek and sloped upward behind the eye to the top of the nape. The neck and throat were yellowish-white. The back, folded wing, and tail streamer were dark brown. Underparts basal color was off-white with heavy horizontal dark barring along the chest, becoming almost solid just before the wing, extending under the wing (barring was backward slanting) to the flanks, becoming darker towards the vent, and ending with streaked undertail coverts. The belly was unstreaked. The bill was yellowish with a dark tip (~30% of bill length). Eyes entirely dark. Legs were not observed well. In flight there was an obvious white patch along the outer 5-6 primary shafts on the upperwing. The underwing appeared to also have a slightly brighter white patch along the outer wing and another larger patch in the center (near inner primaries and secondaries). Another white patch extended along the rump (the only sub-adult characteristic I am aware of on this bird). The folded wing extended nearly to the tail streamer's tips (~95% of streamers covered by wing). Tail streamers were bulbous at the end with a slightly flattish tip. While in flight the wings looked broad, especially near the body, and the bird flew with powerful wingstrokes. Overall, the bird had a very "solid" look to it with a thick neck, a large, heavy chest and broad wings in flight.

#### Similar species:

Long-tailed Jaegar: Distinguished from this species by larger body build (thick neck, broad wings, heavy chested, whereas LTJA is slimmer and more "dainty" in appearance), brown coloration (gray for LTJA in adult plumage), shorter and rounded tail streamers (LTJA streamers are always pointy even when short), and extent of white patch on upperwing (LTJA shows only 2 white primary shafts).

Parasitic Jaegar: Distinguished by larger body size (PAJA does not have the heavy chest, broad wings, or thick neck), rounded tail streamers (PAJA streamers are pointed), heavily streaked chest (less so in PAJA), bi-colored bill (almost entirely dark in PAJA adult), and streaking below wings (unstreaked in adult PAJA).

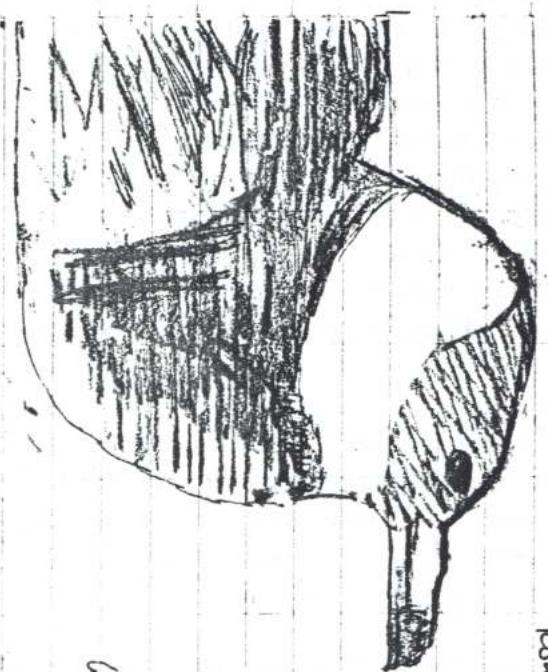
"Hooded" gull species: Combination of brown coloration (for adult plumages), streaked underparts, presence of tail streamers (let alone being bulbous at tip), and yellow bill with a dark tip eliminates all North American species.

Adult Pomarine Jaeger  
(light morph)

overall color - hood blackish  
wing tips white  
tail black tip  
neck - yellow-white  
upper parts dark brown  
eye dark



underparts mostly brown  
wing tips extend to end of tail (capricious)  
streamers rounded



white patch



dark hood  
slanting  
streamers

darker near vent

powerful, purposeful flight

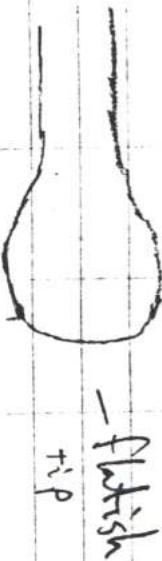
ovest  
flat bay  
June 17, 1999

Stagecoach Pass

60°F  
1300 LBS - 1530 LBS

Zeiss 7x42  
Kowa 80-60 zoom

## Tail Streamer



- sitting bird on water
- Streamer seen well contrasting  
against water if look at 200m
- studied for 10 min.
- white along base of tail



Pomarine Jaeger  
Stagecoach Res.      Routt Co. CO

17 JUNE 99

D. Faulkner

1999-46

(over)



1999-46



Pomarine Jaeger  
Stagecoach Res. Routt Co. Co  
17 JUNE 99

D. Faulkner  
1999-46