

6-1984

Appendix II

DOCUMENTATION OF RARE BIRD SIGHTINGS
FOR
THE UTAH DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES' RECORDSSpecies: Great Egret; _____
(Common name) (Scientific name)

If you watch birds solely for your own enjoyment, a written description of your observations is unnecessary. But, if you have seen something unusual, and would like to share this with others, a written description is essential. Compilers of regional bird lists must insist that their records be scientifically sound; future birds students--those studying occurrences 50 years from now--must have a written record on which to depend. By providing the verifying written description, you are employing a basic rule of the scientific method.

We recognize that experienced field observers can provide important and reliable records, if supported by an adequate verifying description. Thus this request is an effort to perpetuate your record by obtaining concrete evidence which may be permanently preserved for examination by others in the future. This procedure is required for every extraordinary observation, irrespective of the observer.

Date(s): 7/3/84 Time Bird Seen: 2:00 to 2:10 PMLocality: North-west Salt Lake County - 1/2 mi. West
of Intern. Cen. SLC
Nearest town, county and stateOptical equipment: 8x32 Binoculars

If photographed, please enclose copy. Equipment used: _____

Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: - Plumage: SummerLight conditions: Bright sunlightDistance from bird, and how measured: 200 ft., estimated

Describe the bird's overall behavior:

Standing alone on bank of deep drainage ditch, but with many snowy egrets and white faced ibis nearby. Did not move or fly while I was there.

APPENDIX II (Cont.)

Describe the habitat in which you observed the bird:

Open fields, dry now but recently flooded, cut by drainage ditch with 2 ft. deep water, 5-6 ft wide.

Other observers who independently identified this bird (please list name and address):

none

Describe in great detail the bird which you saw. Emphasize particularly the field marks used to identify the bird, but include a complete description of the bird. Include size, overall shape, plumage and color pattern; details on shape or size of bill, wings, and tail. (Reference to its resemblance to field guide descriptions is not enough). Describe what you actually saw in the field.

Size about 50% larger than Snowy Egret, standing possibly 3' tall - all white plumage, long yellow bill, black legs & feet.

Describe the bird's calls or sounds, if heard; including method of delivery--i.e., from perch, in flight, etc.:

none

List similar species and how you eliminated them:

Cattle Egrets were observed in vicinity, but are much smaller

Prior experience with this and similar species:

Have seen greater egret in Cal. - many sightings of Snowy and Cattle egrets locally.

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

Name (print):

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