

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE. FOR UTAH BIRD RECORDS CODING ONLY.

 Altitude \_\_\_\_\_ Record type \_\_\_\_\_ Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Habitat \_\_\_\_\_ Disposition \_\_\_\_\_ Cx Nos. \_\_\_\_\_
Common Name Great EgretScientific Name Casmerodius albusObs. date 10 May 86 Time(s) 4:30, 7:30 p.m.Duration of obs. 10 min. each obs. \_\_\_\_\_Distance from bird 100 meters; 200 metersLight conditions UnobstructedOptical equip. Bushnell Spacemaster 20 - 45 XPhoto equip. Pentax w/ 60 - 300 mm-zoom

Notes made at time of sighting \_\_\_\_\_ Date report prepared \_\_\_\_\_

Notes made later from memory X 10 May 86

Enter number of birds in each category.	GENDER(S)	AGES(S)
	Males _____	Adults <u>1</u>
	Females _____	Juv/Imms _____
	♀ or Imms _____	2/3 yr birds _____
	Unknowns <u>1</u>	Unknowns _____

Total number observed. \_\_\_\_\_

1

Weather at time of this observation.

Overcast, occas. showers, temp. about 45 F.  
wind W about 10 mph

Prior weather and number of days since change

Overcast; snow mixed w/ rain all week prior

Locality Utah Hwy. #39, out of Woodruff, UT  
(Rich Cty.), west of Woodruff about 2 miles  
This is the Monte Cristo Rd.

PLUMAGE(S)

 Breeding 1 Transition \_\_\_\_\_  
 Eclipse \_\_\_\_\_ Dark phase \_\_\_\_\_  
 Winter \_\_\_\_\_ Light ph. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

PHOTO(S)

 Available X  
 Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_
Description of bird: Size, colors, all field marks OBSERVED. - Unique features of this individual, if any.

My first glance told me this was a very large egret; comparable in size to the Great Blue Heron. The beak was large and evenly tapered and yellow; long, also. Iris yellow. Neck and body pure white, again like a Great Blue in proportions. The neck was long and obviously "double-jointed". Legs long and black. Feet not seen. Wispy breeding feathers were not seen.

Id marks which were not seen. Why not?

Foot color: bird was wading and hunting.  
"Open curve" of the neck in flight. The  
one time this bird flushed, the light was  
poor, and his angle was wrong.

Variations from expected field marks.

NONE

What similar species and describe why or how you eliminated them.

Cattle Egret: This bird was very large (as mentioned before); the yellow beak had the long, tapered look of a Great Blue; and did not look short and squat as the Cattle's beak does to me. Cattle's have been spotted nearby, and all have had their breeding tan spots.  
Great Blue Heron, white phase: Leg color was black, not yellow.  
Snowy Egret: (no chance) Beak was not skinny, not black; body size was huge, in comparison.

Behavior of this bird. Other species seen with this one. Any interaction between birds?

Actively hunting for minnows, with success. No other birds nearby; no interaction. When the bird was seen at 7:30 p.m., it was raining and the light was dimming. The bird flushed and flew to an adjacent flooded pond, about 100 m. further along the roadside. The "open curve" of the neck was not seen.

Habitat at this location. Adjacent or near by habitat, if significant.

Flooded pasturelands and seasonal ponds. A stream flows down this valley out of the mountains. All ground in valley itself was open and snow-free.

Describe bird's song or sounds.

NONE NONE

Print reporter's name, address, phone number.

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Evanston, WY 82930 307/789-6424

SIGNED: Craig Kesselheim

Corroborating observers not reporting separately.

Andrew Langford Andrew Langford  
Print Name Signature

Phil Orton Phil Orton 5-10-86  
Print Name Signature

Charles Kocher Charles Kocher  
Print Name Signature

Print Name Signature

What is your experience with this or similar birds?

Lots with other waders; have seen this species in Everglades and other eastern locations.