

VERIFICATION OF UNUSUAL SIGHT RECORD FOR UTAH

Common Name: Short-billed Dowitcher

Scientific Name: *Limnodromus griseus*

Date: July 16 1988 Time: 12:00-1:30 PM

Length of time observed: 1 1/2 hrs

Number: 25 Age: adult

Sex:

Location: Pariaette WMA (BLM)

Lat/long: 8

Elevation (if known):

Distance to bird: 30 feet

Light conditions: sunny

Optical equipment: 7x35 binoculars

Weather: hot, clear

Description: (Write a detailed description of the bird's appearance, including size, shape, plumage pattern, color, and any unique features.)

Medium sized shorebird with a long rather straight b. ll
yellowish leggs.

Underparts evenish orangish Dark markings ^{only} at
bent in wind. The underparts were generally little
marked. Foreneck was unmarked

Upper parts back feathers and scapulars were
broadly edged with orangish borders.

Voice or call notes and method of delivery: Absolutely silent while feeding. We were 30 feet or less, when we finally flushed they gave a mellow twittering totally different in tonal quality to the Long-billed. Flushed & heard repeatedly. At no time did we hear to keep call of the LBD with which we are very familiar.

Behavior: Feed sewing machine like, flushed only with difficulty, would fly around and return repeatedly.

Habitat: Shallow pond - water receding, near Green River.

What similar species might it have been and how were these eliminated:

Long-billed Dowitcher ruled out by voice. Large broad edges are typical of hendersoni which would show the least wear in July. Basically unmarked underpart especially foreneck (although later Long-billed can wear down the marking) more orangish underparts.

What experience have you had with this and similar species:

I am very familiar with Long-billed, both voice + plumage. Short-billed most I have identified have been juveniles.

Books, illustrations, and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description:

I called Claudia Wilds the next day. She endorsed the record and said she had no questions I had perfectly describe hendersoni - the expected subspecies in Utah.

Significance of record in this area or the state:

Largest number of adults at one time

Additional material: (attach drawing, photograph, tape recording if available)

Description from notes taken at time of sighting _____ notes made later X from memory _____

Observer: Ella Sorensen

Signature: Ella Sorensen

Address: 3868 Marsha Dr
West Valley City UT 84120

Other observers who independently identified this bird:

Richard Sorensen

Date prepared: July 18 1988

Return this form to: Ella Sorensen
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