

No. 15-1999

UBRC Record

**UTAH BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE  
VERIFICATION OF UNUSUAL SIGHT RECORD FOR UTAH**

COMMON NAME: Mew GullSCIENTIFIC NAME: Larus canusDATE: Sunday 24 Oct. 1999TIME: 3:15 pmLENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED: 45 minutesNUMBER: 1AGE: 1<sup>st</sup> yearSEX: ?LOCATION: North Park Spanish Fork, UtahCOUNTY: Utah

LAT/LONG:

ELEVATION:

DISTANCE TO BIRD: 10 feetWEATHER: clear 70°FLIGHT CONDITIONS: clear, no clouds

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF BIRD: While eating lunch w/wife in parking lot, I remarked how much smaller the gull-like ~~bird~~ bird was that was flying towards the car from the direction of the pond. The bird landed in front of the car and stayed there throughout the sighting. The <sup>gull</sup> has pink legs and a small pink bill with a black tip. The primary feathers are dark and extend beyond a dark tail. The head is round and white w/no distinguishing markings. The body is white with a gray<sup>ish</sup> back and brownish wings.

— Observed in parking lot Monday 25 Oct. 1999 w/several others from 8:30 → 11:00

— Observed in parking lot Tuesday 26 Oct. 1999 w/Merrill Webb from 8:30 → 9:30

SONG OR CALL AND METHOD OF DELIVERY: I heard the gull "mew" Monday (24<sup>th</sup> Oct. 1999) while observing in the parking lot.

BEHAVIOR: The gull appeared very un wary. It kept close to the car Sunday - Monday as I took pictures the gull did not fly. The gull walked away from me as I got closer. While "chumming" ~~the gull~~ the gull moved more than the other California and Ring-billed Gulls. The mew gull walked constantly and was consistently in the front of the group.

## HABITAT:

city park w/ large pond, ball fields, + picnic pavilion w/ playground equipment

SIMILAR SPECIES AND HOW WERE THEY ELIMINATED: seen with several California and Ring-billed Gulls in the park. They all were larger, had larger beaks w/ distinct gonysdeal angles, and non-rounded heads.

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND SIMILAR SPECIES: Ring-billed + California in Utah, and mostly Heerman, Herring, + Western in Ventura, California.

REFERENCES CONSULTED: Audubon Society Field Guide / picture #35  
Birds of NA/NBS

Internet - Patuxent Bird ID / Gull identification / TBRC

DESCRIPTION FROM: NOTES TAKEN AT TIME OF SIGHTING x, NOTES MADE LATER x, FROM MEMORY     

OBSERVER: Harold Clayton

SIGNATURE: *Harold Clayton*

ADDRESS: 180 West Appleblossom Way

CITY: Salem

STATE: Utah

ZIP: 84653

E-MAIL ADDRESS: JHClayson@aol.com

OTHER OBSERVERS WHO INDEPENDENTLY IDENTIFIED THIS BIRD: Merrill Webb, Tuula Rose, Milton Moore

DATE PREPARED: 26 Oct. 1999

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL: PHOTO x, DRAWING     , TAPE     , OTHER     

RETURN THIS FORM TO: UTAH BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE  
P.O. BOX 1042  
CEDAR CITY, UT 84721-1042