

accepted

APPENDIX V
UTAH FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS
UTAH BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

11-1984
12-1984

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

atlong _____ Record type _____ Serial No. _____
abitat _____ Disposition _____ Cx Nos. _____

Common Name GLAUCOUS-WINGED GULL
Scientific Name Larus glaucescens
Obs. date Nov 20, 1984 Time(s) 1300-1415
Duration of obs. about 15 min, then 5 min, then >30 min
Distance from bird as close as 100'
Light conditions good - excellent
Optical equip. 9X binocs, 15-60X zoom binoscope
Photo equip. 300 mm lens in Minolta SLR camera
Notes made at time of sighting X Date report prepared Nov 20, 1984
Notes made later from memory _____

Weather at time of this observation.
Fair, Temp ~ 50°F, light winds
Prior weather and number of days since change
Fair since at least 5 days previous
Locality PROVO CITY LANDFILL and adjacent pond.
Latilong block number 6

Enter number of birds in each category.	GENDER(S)	AGES(S)	PLUMAGE(S)	PHOTO(S)
Total number observed. <u>1</u>	Males _____ Females _____ ♀ or Imms _____ Unknowns <u>1</u>	Adults _____ Juv/Imms / 1st winter _____ 2/3 yr birds _____ Unknowns _____	Breeding _____ Transition _____ Eclipse _____ Dark phase _____ Winter <u>1st -</u> Light ph. _____ Other _____	Available <u>X</u> Enclosed _____

Description of bird: Size, colors, all field marks OBSERVED. - Unique features of this individual, if any.

Uniformly gray-tan all over. Wing-tips the same color as the back and wing coverts (when seen perched). Larger (though not greatly larger) than Herring Gulls nearby, much lighter colored than most Herring Gulls (1st winter), though some 1st winter gulls were nearly as light except for much darker wing-tips (I suspect these individuals may have been Thayer's Gulls). Bill noticeably thicker (heavier) than any other gull at the dump! Bill not really conspicuously longer than Herring gull, but much heavier than Herring Gull - especially at the gonys angle toward the tip. Bill was completely black. In flight, dorsal surface of wing was uniformly gray-tan, wing tips no different in color, ventral surface of wing very whitish to the tips with absolutely no dark areas visible, even along the margins. In one instance when viewing dorsal wing surfaces, I noted a translucent look (Forster's Tern-like) to the primaries (this is typical of 1st winter, Glaucous-winged, not not see this). Dorsal surface of tail ^{showed} a very, very slightly darker gray area, as if a diffuse subterminal band was present. The overall plumage was lacking in conspicuous mottling, barring, marbling, or ~~other~~ blotchiness typical of Herring and Thayer's. In one side-by-side comparison I estimated bill thickness to be 2X that of a Ring-billed Gull.

ATTACH ADDITIONAL NOTES, LISTS OF REFERENCES, SKETCHES FROM LIFE, PHOTOGRAPHS, ETC.

Field marks which were not seen. Why not?

None

Variations from expected field marks.

Only translucent pinnacles seen (or thought to have been seen) on one occasion with the bird in flight. Light conditions may have caused this.

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

GLAUCOUS GULL - BILL COLOR WRONG AND WING-TIPS NOT WHITE ENOUGH
 ICELAND (KUMLIEN) GULL - BILL TOO LARGE, ~~THE~~ BODY SIZE TOO LARGE, OTHERWISE SOMEWHAT SIMILAR.
 THAYER'S GULL - BILL TOO LARGE, DORSAL SURFACE OF PRIMARIES TOO LIGHT
 GLAUCOUS-WINGED X WESTERN HYBRID - NOT DARK ENOUGH OVERALL, AND ESPECIALLY ON WING-TIPS ~~AND~~

THIS INDIVIDUAL WAS MIDWAY IN COLORATION BETWEEN THE 2 1ST WINTER SPECIMENS IN THE BILL COLLECTION.

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

STANDING, PREENING, SLEEPING, FEEDING AT DUMP OR NEARBY,
 SEEN WITH Ring-billed, California, Herring, + Thayer's

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

GARBAGE DUMP

Describe bird's song or sounds.

—

Print reporter's name, address, phone number.

DAVID L. FISCHER
 177 STARCREST DRIVE
 OREM, UT 84058

Signature

David L. Fischer

What is your experience with this or similar birds?

I've never seen in wild, have seen specimens in museums

I have seen photos

Corroborating observers not reporting separately.

CLAYTON WHITE Clayton
 Print Name Signature

Print Name

Signature

Print Name

Signature

Print Name

Signature

Glaucous-Winged Gull

Nov 20 1984

David Fischer

~~Photo~~

First winter

Proro Dump Lat 5

large gull

A photograph of the ~~species~~ bird shows the ^{primaries} in first winter plumage uniformly colored ~~primaries~~ on the upper side and somewhat silvery on the under side and an all dark bill. ^{Because the second photograph} There was some initial reservations by one of the reviewers that a

Glaucous/Herring

Perhaps

Because of the angle or some aberration ~~of the~~ ^{the} second photograph of ~~the~~ ^{the} gull made the gull appear quite light headed and long billed causing some initial reservations from one of the reviewers that a Glaucous/Herring ^{hybrid} Gull had not been ruled out. This hybrid was not addressed in the written description. The photographs were further reviewed a number of persons knowledgeable on Glaucous Gulls and the general feeling was that the Gull was correctly identified.

~~This identification~~
This ~~photo~~ illustrates need

Gull identification can be extremely difficult even for those with ~~an~~ extensive experience. Individuals with in a species can vary greatly, there are multiple plumage and many stages of molt between, there are numerous hybrids, aberrant plumages like albinism and leucism all must be rule out before a record can be accepted. The excellent in flight photograph

verified this ~~photo~~ ~~first~~ new state record. [Evid. Notes]
(12-1984) → G.M.C. J.D. P.L. 9-1984

Black Scoter Dec 1-2 1984 RS ES B+G-B
C.M. J.B.

Cat 3 → Cat 2
Cat 5
12-1984 1/2

Several Photogr. Photos taken Nov 20, 1984 ~~wounded~~ ~~head,~~
at Provo Dump by PL
David L. Fisher Black Scoter

7 h 5x7 = Glaucous-winged gull ~~documented~~ record
(1st winter) taking flight flanked by adult and 2nd winter California gulls and Common Crow. Note gray wing tips concolor with rest of wing and solid black bill Utah

Red Shouldered This observed
found by

Merrill 6 3x5 = Glaucous-winged gull perched with crow and California gulls right George G.B.C.

Photograph and left (note size comparison and large, bulbous-tipped bill). 1984
The date follows "pallidus" for records

areas in Nev, Arizona, an ~~sub~~ of ~~half~~ 3:0
Bairds Sparrow grey, from this breeding range
1 May 27 1982

The committee ~~was~~ did not feel qualified to evaluate this species and ~~was~~ received advice from four reviewers. ~~It~~ None recommended accepting the record. ~~that~~

"A major point both mention is the abrupt ending of the breast streaking on the upper breast - indeed a characteristic of Bairds Sparrow, but also not uncommon in Savannah Sparrows, especially western ones.