

BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD.

1. Species LONG-TAILED JAEGER 2. Number: 1

3. Location OURAY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

4. Date: 6-13-85 5. Time Bird seen: 8:00 AM to 8:30 AM

6. Description of size, shape and color-pattern (describe in great detail all parts of the plumage, and beak and feet coloration, in addition, to the diagnostic characteristics, but include only what actually was seen in the field):

BILL ALL BLACK, TOP PART OF HEAD THRU EYE BLACK. WHITE BEHIND HEARDON NECK. WHITE ON LOWER NECK DOWN TO LOWER STOMACH. DARK GRAY ON BACK AND WINGS. TAIL DARK BLACK. STOMACH-BACK THRU UNDERTAIL COVERTS GRAY. DID NOT SEE FEET. TAIL STUCK OUT FAR (6-8 INCHES) PAST WINGS WHEN ON GROUND. WHEN BIRD FLUSHED, FLEW AWAY FROM ME, BUT TAIL LOOKED EVEN LONGER WHEN BIRD FLYING.

7. Description of voice, if heard: NO

8. Description of behavior: SITTING IN SHALLOW WATER EATING A LARGE DEAD FISH. WHEN I GOT CLOSE TO PHOTOGRAPH, FLEW DOWN AND AWAY.

9. Habitat - general: SHALLOW LAKE

10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7 & 8, Explain: AT FIRST THOUGHT IT WAS A TERN BUT HAD BLACK BILL + BLACK ON HEAD TAIL AND TERN HAS LONG TAIL FEATHERS AND SLIGHT BUILD ELIMINATE OTHER TWO JAEGER

This one I question - an unmistakable bird to be sure but I don't know it.

11. Distance (how measured)? 100-150 YARDS

12. Optical equipment: 10x50 Binos, 15-60 scope

13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you): BRIGHT MORNING.

14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species: NONE

15. Other observers: NONE

16. Did the others agree with your identification? N.A.

17. Other observers who independently identified this bird: ?

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

*POSSON - Field Guide Birds of E. N.A.
Kilham Birds of N.A.
National Geographic Birds of N.A.*

19. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description? one week

Signature: Jim Hampson Address: 1308 Meriden St.

Date: 6-20-85 City, State: Menasha, Ill. 61342

8-28-85

Dear Mr. Kroggy:

I did not have any prints of slide of bird made because it looked like a fly-speck. I am enclosing the original slide. With a 10 power hand lens I could get an idea that it was a Long-tailed Jaeger.

I don't blame you for wanting more information. I asked at refuge headquarters if anyone else had seen the bird. They didn't know. The receptionist there told me some people from a nearby town went to the refuge often, but she didn't know their names. Evidently no one else saw it.

I do not need this slide back. Thanks for being interested enough to write. Hope you can see enough on slide to convince you.

Sincerely,

Jim Hampton

6-20 85

Dear Mr. Kingery

I was able to take one slide of the
bird before it flew. Will send a print as
soon as possible. I also send ~~ing~~ a
verification to refuge manager in Verod.
Thought I would send this now and you
can decide whether it goes in Spring
migration or summer.

W.H.
8/25

Sincerely
Jim Hampson
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