

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

Lat/long _____ Record type _____ Serial No. _____
 Habitat _____ Disposition _____ Cx Nos. _____

Common Name Tricolored Heron
 Scientific Name Egretta tricolor
 Obs. date June 16, 1988 Time(s) 7:30-7:50 A.M.
 Duration of obs. Approx. 20 min.
 Distance from bird 30-100 yards
 Light conditions Excellent
 Optical equip. 7x35 Swift Binocs and 15-20x Scope
 Photo equip. none
 Notes made at time of sighting X
 Notes made later from memory _____
 Date report prepared June 18, 1988

Weather at time of this observation.

Clear, warm and dry.

Prior weather and number of days since change

There had been storms earlier in the month with strong southerly winds.

Locality

Pond at 1200 West 9000 South between Salem and Spanish Fork, Utah in Utah County.

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

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

Size: Larger than a Snowy Egret and smaller than a Gt. Blue Heron (rather small for a heron).

Color: Blue head, upper neck and wings, white throat giving way to mostly blue on under side of throat. The belly was all white, and the rump was whitish tinged with a light rust color that blended into a brownish back and then the blue neck.
 Long, pointed bill was yellow.

Field Marks: All the fieldguides stress the fact that this is a white-bellied heron with contrasting dark upper parts. These fieldmarks were easily observable.

Note: Harold Clayson saw this bird on June 15, reported it to me, and then observed it again the following morning at about 9:00 A.M. a couple of hours after I saw it. He should be submitting a report on this sighting as well.

Field marks which were not seen. Why not?

none

Variations from expected field marks.

none

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

A Gt. Blue Heron was in a pond not far away which I had looked at about five minutes before seeing the Tricolored Heron. The Gt. Blue was about twice as large and lighter overall. The Green-backed Heron is smaller, chunkier with short yellow legs. Little Blue Heron adult has dark belly as well as dark upperparts. Reddish Egret has a reddish head and neck as well as a dark belly. The Tricolored Heron, as already mentioned, had a white belly.

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

This bird was quite wary. It flushed from some nearby bullrush as I approached in the car, and later flew again from a distance farther away from me as another car passed by the pond. I was able to watch it feed from the shallow water, but it was very deliberate and didn't move around much. Its neck would move about as it surveyed the surroundings, but its body didn't move much.

There were no other birds in the area while I was observing with which it interacted.

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

The pond was approximately one or one and a half surface acres large fed by a drainage ditch on the side nearest the road. It was surrounded by alkali and scanty vegetation such as salt grass and greasewood except for some hard-stem bullrush near the canal or ditch.

Describe bird's song or sounds.

none heard

Print reporter's name, address, phone number.

Merrill Webb
1063 East 400 North
Orem, Utah 84057

Signature Merrill Webb

What is your experience with this or similar birds?

I saw 7-8 of this species in Texas in 1986.

Corroborating observers not reporting separately.

Print Name

Signature

Print Name

Signature

Print Name

Signature

Print Name

Signature