

## VERIFICATION OF UNUSUAL SIGHT RECORD FOR UTAH

Common Name: WHIMBREL

Scientific Name: NUMENIUS PHAEOPUS

Date: MAY 2, 1988

Time: 7:54 AM

Length of time observed: 5 min

\* Number: 2

Age: ? ADULT

Sex: ?

Location: WEST GENTILE STREET IN LAYTON, DAVIS CO.

Latilong: 2

Elevation (if known): 4250

Distance to bird: 20 yds

Light conditions: Excellent

Optical equipment: BINOS 10X50 SPOTTING SCOPE

Weather: COOL, PARTLY CLOUDY

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

BROWNISH GRAY LONG-LEGGED BIRD NOTICEABLY SMALLER THAN THE ACCOMPANYING L.B. CURLEWS AND SLIGHTLY LARGER THAN THE WILLETS THAT WERE PRESENT.

LONG, DECURVED BILL (BUT SHORTER AND OF A DIFFERENT CURVATURE THAN THE L.B. CURLEWS).

HEAD WAS BOLDLY BLACK & WHITE STRIPED - WITH WHITE BEING THE CENTRAL STRIPE, BORDERED BY BROADER BLACK STRIPES, THEN WITH A WHITE EYE BROW AND A DARK EYE STRIPE (THROUGH LORES TO BACK OF HEAD)

CHERRY THROAT, NECK AND VENTRAL SURFACE WAS GRAYISH WITH SOME BROWN SPOTTING.

BACK & WINGS WERE GRAYISH BROWN WITH SOME LIGHTER GRAY-BROWN SPOTTING. DARK PRIMARIES

GRAYISH WASH TO UNDER WING SURFACE

\* THESE BIRDS HUNG AROUND GENERAL AREA FROM MAY 2<sup>ND</sup> UNTIL MAY 31<sup>ST</sup> AT TIMES ONE TO AS MANY AS THREE INDIVIDUALS WERE SEEN.

Voice or call notes and method of delivery:

NONE HEARD

Behavior:

PROBED/WALK/PROBE, BUT AT A FASTER PACE THAN THE  
L.B. Curlews.

Habitat:

upland short grass pasture.

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

L.B. CURLEW - THIS BIRD WAS SMALLER WITH A BOLDLY STREAKED CROWN-OVERALL  
IMPRESSION WAS A GRAYISH BIRD w/ GRAY WING LINES NOT A CINNAMON  
COLORED BIRD w/ RUFOUS WING LINES.

ESKIMO CURLEW - THIS BIRD WAS LARGER THAN AN ESKIMO w/ A LONGER MORE DECURVED BILL  
UNDERWINGS OF AN ESKIMO ARE MUCH MORE RUFOUS THAN ON THIS BIRD

WILLET - OVERALL COLORATION OF BODY SIMILAR, BUT THIS BIRD HAD A NOTICEABLY DECURVED  
BILL AND NO BOLD BLACK & WHITE WING PATTERN.

What experience have you had with this and similar species:

THIS IS THE 3<sup>RD</sup> YEAR RUNNING THAT WHIMBRELS HAVE OCCURED AT THIS  
LOCATION (THAT I AM AWARE OF) - 1986, 1987, 1988

VERY FAMILIAR w/ L.B. CURLEWS & WILLETS - I'D PEE MY PANTS IF I SAW AN ESKIMO CURLEW  
Books, illustrations, and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description:

NAT GEO. HELPED REFRESH MY MEMORY OF FIELD MARKS

Significance of record in this area or the state:

PROBABLY A RARE TRANSIENT

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

NONE

Description from notes taken at time of sighting ☒ notes made later ☐ from memory ☒

Observer:

CRAIG L. KNEEDY

Signature:

Craig Kneedy

Address:

314 S. 4500 W  
WEST POINT, Utah 84015

Other observers who independently identified this bird:

JUDY NELSON

ELLA SORENSEN

MARGI HALPIN

THE ENTIRE NATURE CONSERVANCY FIELD TRIP OF MAY 14, '88

Date prepared:

6/9/88

Return this form to:

Ella Sorensen  
3868 Marsha Drive  
West Valley City, Utah 84120