

## VERIFICATION OF UNUSUAL SIGHT RECORD FOR UTAH

Common Name: RED Phalarope Scientific Name: Phalaropus fulicaria  
 Date: Oct. 11, 1991 to Nov. 6 Time: 4:15 <sup>pm</sup> orig. sighting Length of time observed: 45 min.  
 Number: 1 to 5 Age: Adult (basic plumage) Sex: ?  
 Location: Farmington Bay, Davis Co. Utah. <sup>east of</sup> Western-most dike at Southern end  
 Latilong: Elevation (if known): 4208  
 Distance to bird: 3m. at closest Light conditions: excellent  
 Optical equipment: 10x50 binos; Celestron scope  
 Weather: Cool/clear

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

The original sighting (Oct. 11, 1991) One phalarope was noticeably larger, lighter, and short billed in the company of  $\pm$  1,200 Red-necked phals. The bill was approx same length as the Red-necked's but approx 3x thicker. The bird was approx  $\frac{1}{3}$  to  $\frac{1}{4}$  larger than the R.N.'s and heavier and bulkier overall. Dark mask over eye and auriculars and ~~extending~~ <sup>passing</sup> through lores (only lightly). The crown, neck, throat, forehead, and underparts were white. The extreme back of the crown and nape were black, fading to a smooth unmarked <sup>light to</sup> medium gray on neck and back. Flight feathers appeared darker than mantle. In flight the dark primaries and secondaries had white bases, giving the appearance of a bold wing stripe. The gray mantle color extended across the rump. Dark tail. Bill was black (no light base noticed). ↑ ↑

Above is From notes taken in field 10/11/91

Two birds of same description were seen on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> Oct, 1991 in same general area. Four birds were seen Oct. 25, 1991 in same area - but the Red-necked had move out. Two birds seen same area - but the Red-necked had move out. Two birds seen west of westernmost dike Nov. 1, 1991. Three birds seen in South west pond (from parking area) on Nov. 2, 1991. One bird in southwest pond on Nov. 6, 1991.

Voice or call notes and method of delivery: None heard

Behavior: Twirling swim typical of phalaropes - seem slightly more lethargic than Red-necked.

Habitat: deep water impoundments at Farmington Bay.

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

Wilson's - bill much longer and thinner, white rump in flight, dark crown extends to forehead, face patch nearly lacking  
Red-necked - smaller bird, thinner bill, scapulars & coverts marked with white line, many R.N.'s have dark in crown extending nearly to forehead  
Sanderling - same general color in winter, but no black face mask or nape patch, they usually don't prefer to swim

What experience have you had with this and similar species:

These were my first Red, but much exp. w/ Wilson's & Red-necked

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

First part of description taken directly from notes in field. Books as reference: "Natl Geo." Zimmer's "Western Birders" and Ella Sorensen as mentor.

Significance of record in this area or the state:


4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> or more

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

maybe photos?

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

Observer: CRAIG L. KNEEDY

Signature: 

Address: 34 S. 4500 W.  
West Point, Utah

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Other observers who independently identified this bird:

Ella Sorensen, Terry Suddler, m. ob. from Salt Lake Birders Club

Date prepared: 11/7/91

Return this form to: Ella Sorensen  
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