

UTAH ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

VERIFICATION OF UNUSUAL SIGHT RECORD FOR UTAH

COMMON NAME: Magnificent Frigatebird

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Fregata Magnificens*DATE: 5-29-99 TIME: 3:30 - 3:45^{PM} LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED: 15 minutes

NUMBER: 1 AGE: Immature SEX: ?

LOCATION: Minersville Reservoir - at the dock
Beaver County

LAT/LONG:

ELEVATION:

DISTANCE TO BIRD: 20-50ft.

WEATHER: Partly cloudy

LIGHT CONDITIONS: Fantastic

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF BIRD:

After observing the bird perched across the lake from a hill on the west side, we attempted to find it on the east side by land, which proved impossible due to the thick foliage. We attempted to appropriate a boat - as soon as we got on board, the bird glided over the trees and we jumped back on land.

It was a large, long-winged - fork-tailed bird with a long, hooked bill. It had a white head, ~~and~~ chest, and lower belly with dark brown wings.

It glided for ~~20~~ 15 minutes without flapping once. It was a wonderful treat ending 5 hours of searching.



SONG OR CALL AND METHOD OF DELIVERY:

None

BEHAVIOR:

Glided on long wings in swift wind

HABITAT: Large reservoir with thick grove of partially submerged cottonwoods.

SIMILAR SPECIES AND HOW WERE THEY ELIMINATED:

Swallow-tailed Kite - has short black bill, all-white below. Usually found over land, not water
Barn Swallow - Tends to flap wings more often, has a dark chestnut underside.

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND SIMILAR SPECIES:

Have seen the above species before.

REFERENCES CONSULTED:

Field Guide to the Birds of North America

DESCRIPTION FROM: NOTES TAKEN AT TIME OF SIGHTING _____, NOTES MADE LATER _____

FROM MEMORY

OBSERVER: Joshua Kreitzer

SIGNATURE:

ADDRESS: 174 E. 300 N.

CITY: Washington

STATE: UT

ZIP: 84780

OTHER OBSERVERS WHO INDEPENDENTLY IDENTIFIED THIS BIRD:

Lew Wilkinson, Nathaniel Kreitzer

DATE PREPARED: 5-29-99

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL: PHOTO , DRAWING _____, TAPE _____, OTHER _____

→ Being developed

RETURN THIS FORM TO:

UTAH ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE
P.O. BOX 1042
CEDAR CITY, UT 84721-1042