

BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD.

1. Species SNOWY EGRET 2. Number: THREE
SECTION 7
3. Location SOUTH OF THE VIADUCT ALBION, MARSHALL COUNTY R18W-T48N
4. Date: APRIL 27, 1984 5. Time Bird seen: 11:30 to 12:00
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): EGRET SIZE BIRDS -- ALL WHITE -- BLACK BILLS - BLACK LEGS -- 12-15 INCHES BODY SIZE BIRD'S BODY SIZE EQUALED SIZE OF NEARBY CATTLE EGRET
7. Description of voice, if heard: NONE
8. Description of behavior: BIRDS CROUCHED -- NECKS HELD CLOSE TO BODY
9. Habitat - general: FLOODPLAIN
specific: GRASSY MEADOW - 2-3" OF WATER
10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7 & 8, Explain: AMERICAN EGRETS HAVE YELLOW BILLS AND LEGS -- MUCH LARGER IN SIZE CATTLE EGRET WAS ALSO PRESENT -- IT HAD YELLOW BILL -- YELLOW ON HEAD -- TAIL FEATHERS HAD YELLOW EDGINGS
11. Distance (how measured)? 100 YARDS (APPROXIMATE) 12. Optical equipment: 8X46 BINOCULARS
13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you): CLEAR -- SUNNY -- SUN TO RIGHT BIRDS TO LEFT
14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species: FLORIDA AND TEXAS
15. Other observers: JOE SCHAUFENBUEL, FRANCIS MOORE
16. Did the others agree with your identification? YES
17. Other observers who independently identified this bird: FRANCIS MOORE
18. Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description:
19. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description? 4 DAYS
- HANK ZALETEL Address: 715 WEST
Signature
- Date: MAY 1, 1984 City, State: COLO, IOWA 50056