

Spring 1966

Details on ibis, Jim Dinsmore

Species: White-faced Ibis

Location: Dickinson county

Number: saw at least six, birds were flying around and dropping into rushes so couldn't see all at once

Date: 20 May, about 3 p.m., also saw them again next morning (21st)

Details: Birds were obviously a dark ibis; long legs, long decurved bill clearly seen on numerous occasions. Plumage had an almost purplish tinge to it in that hard-to-describe color of this species. The birds would not perch where we had a clear view of them; flew and then dropped into weeds where at most we could see head. I looked repeatedly at the face and at the legs to check on colors. Not all of the birds showed distinct White-face characteristics but did see them on at least some of the birds. In flight, several times could see that the red color was not confined to the ankles but also went up onto the leg itself. Also could see distinct white color around the base of the bill on one or two of the birds. On at least some of the others this white was present but not very obvious. Both of these characters plus the range clearly point to these birds being white-faced ibis.