

BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF
AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD

1. Species Marbled Godwit 2. Number 1
3. Location Big Marsh
4. Date: 4-5-81 5. Time Bird Seen: 10:00 AM to 10:01 AM
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):
- 1.) size - large - somewhat bigger than greater yellowlegs
 - 2.) bill - very long (big) - seemed slightly upturned
 - 3.) color - basic light or buffy brown - slightly darker cross barring on breast back + ~~tail~~ were also light brown (NO WHITE RUMP)
 - 4.) dark legs
 5. I was so busy checking the bird's rump that I missed the cinnamon wing linings that Francis got.
7. Description of voice, if heard: —
8. Description of behavior: flying north
9. Habitat - general: Big Marsh —
specific: north side of marsh heading up West Fork Riv.
10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7 & 8. Explain:
Hudsonian godwit has white rump
11. Distance (how measured)?
75 feet
12. Optical equipment:
7X35 B+B Roof prisms
13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you):
Sunny - bird was flying north - we were facing west - sun was behind us - excellent lighting
14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species:
15. Other observers: Francis Moore - Russ Hays - Antoinette Comarota - Jody Hines
16. Did the others agree with your identification? Yes - Francis + I both yelled "godwit!" when we first saw bird
17. Other observers who independently identified this bird: Francis Moore + Russ Hays
18. Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description.
Peterson - Field Guide To Birds
Robbins - Birds of North America
19. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description? a week or little more
- Signature: Robert X. Myers Address: 1236 Sylvia Ave.
- Date: 4-15-81 City, State: Watkins, Iowa 50701