

Mottled Godwit 4

16 May 1985

Forney's Lake, ~~Beaumont~~ Fremont County, Iowa

Description: Sandpipers. Very large - much larger than the dowitchers with them. Birds flushed with the dowitchers + circled + landed again. The godwits were ~~are~~ uniformly brown, above + below. No wing stripe or ~~white~~ white rump. Underwings brown. Outer primaries black above. Bill long + certainly not decurved.

Similar species: Hudsonian Godwit has white wing stripe + rump. Long-billed Curlew has decurved bill + would be most unusual here. Most sandpipers are smaller than dowitchers.

Viewing conditions: Windy. 20x Scope. Overcast. Birds on Pelican-covered island in Forney's Lake while I was on the S. shore of the lake. If the birds hadn't flushed I couldn't have identified them at the distance, whatever it was.

Written June 2 from notes written after the birds settled on the island again.

- Barbara L Wilson

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