

BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD.

1. Species B. L. Kittiwake 2. Number: 2
3. Location Saylorville
4. Date: 12/12/87 5. Time Bird seen: 9<sup>00</sup> AM to 10<sup>30</sup> 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): larger than Bonaparte's it was with. Dark bill, dark spot, dark bar on nape of neck. More prominent on one bird, than the other. white on trailing edge of wing extended to secondaries, and dark on leading edge of wing more extensive than Bonaparte's. Dark bar on proximal wing more defined than imm. Bonaparte's. Dark trailing edge of tail. Bonaparte's headed back up the lake in a flock (about 50) Two Kittiwakes stayed on water for ten more minutes.
7. Description of voice, if heard: —
8. Description of behavior: fishing, sitting on water, (bighead shad plentiful.)
9. Habitat - general: lake  
specific: n. end of Saylorville, near 17<sup>th</sup> bridge
10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7 & 8, Explain:  
Bonaparte's - see above  
Sabines - imm. wing pattern distinctly different
11. Distance (how measured)? 200 yds (guess) 12. Optical equipment: 8X36
13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you): good light  
partly cloudy
14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species: Bonaparte's  
common in lake. First Saylorville Kittiwakes, for me.
15. Other observers: none
16. Did the others agree with your identification? —
17. Other observers who independently identified this bird: this species present for much of the fall, off and on. consistently present last 2-3 weeks.
18. Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description:  
Natural Geographic  
Peterson
19. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description? 6 hours

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