

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? Marbled Godwit (*Limosa fedoa*) How many? 1Location? Pond alongside the road about 2 to 3 mi East of Colo, Story County, IowaType of habitat? Pond starting to dry up alongside a hard surface road.When? date(s): August 15, 1982 time: 4:20 pm to 4:30 pmWho? your name and address: Francis L. Moore, 264 Western Ave., Waterloo, IA 50701others with you: Noothers before or after you: Bob Myers on 8/16 and Hank Zalatel before

Describe the bird(s) including only what you observed. Include size, shape, details of all parts (bill, eye, head, neck, back, wing, tail, throat, breast, belly, under tail, legs, feet). Also mention voice and behavior.

The bird was a large sandpiper with a long, heavy based, recurved bill. The bird's overall coloration was a mottled brownish color with a buff-light brown cast to it. When the bird raised its wings to stretch I could see that it also had a cinnamon color to the underwing coverts and that the rump ^{or upper tail} was an even buff color, not white as a Hudsonian Godwit would have.

This is probably the bird that was mentioned on the Iowa Bird Line at about this time.

Similar species and how eliminated: Hudsonian Godwit has a white upper tail area with a dark terminal area on the tail. The Hudsonian also does not have the cinnamon underwing coverts as this bird had.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? No

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment:
Sunny, distance was approx. 150 to 200 feet using 7x35mm B+L Roof Prism Binoculars and 33x90-C90 Celestron spotting scope.

Previous experience with species and similar ones: Have seen several Marbled Godwits and quite a few Hudsonian Godwits.

References and persons consulted before writing description: None

How long before field notes made? 2 hours this form completed? 24 hours

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