

DOCUMENTATION FORM

Species            How many?    LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL    1 AD  
Location?    SPRING RUN AREA JUST EAST OF LANDFILL, DICKINSON CO.  
Type of habitat?    OPEN FIELD - CORN STUBBLE  
When? date(s): 11/8/98 Time: . 9:30AM - 10:10AM

Who? your name and address

LEE A. SCHOENEWE

Others with you    ED THELEN

Others before and after you

Describe the bird(s) including only what you observed. Include size, shape, details of all parts (bill, head, neck, back, wing, tail, throat, breast, belly, under tail, legs, feet). Also describe voice and behavior. I WAS SCANNING A GROUP OF GULLS IN AN OPEN FIELD NEAR THE LANDFILL WHEN I NOTICED A BIRD WITH A DARK GRAY MANTLE. FOCUSING THE SCOPE AND ZOOMING IN, I COULD SEE THE YELLOW EYE AND THE STRAIGHT YELLOW BILL WITH A LARGE RED SPOT ON THE LOWER MANDIBLE. WHEN THE BIRD FLEW THE DARK BACK AND UPPER WINGS STOOD OUT FROM THE OTHER GULLS, THE RUMP AND TAIL WERE WHITE AND THE UNDERPARTS WERE ALL LIGHT. THE SIZE WAS NEAR THE HERRING GULLS BUT SMALLER. THE HEAD AND NECK WERE HEAVILY SPECKLED WITH BROWN. THE LEGS APPEARED PINK ON THE

Similar species and how eliminated: HERRING GULL/ CALIFORNIA GULL BY MANTLE  
COLOR: GREAT-BLACK-BACKED/WESTERN/SOoty-BACKED BY STREAKING ON HEAD + NECK

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? NO

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment: CLOUDY DAYLIGHT, 150 YDS; 8X40 BINOCULAR  
20X-60X SCOPE

Previous experience with this species and similar ones:

References and persons consulted before writing description:

How long before field notes made? IMMEDIATELY  
this form completed? 8 HOURS

Mail original form to field editor for this season.

GROUND AGAINST THE SNOW BUT  
SIMILAR TO NEARBY RING-BILLED  
LEGS IN COLOR. WHEN THE BIRD  
WAS FLYING, THE LEGS SEEMED  
MORE DULL YELLOW-ORANGE.