

Snowy Plover
10 May 1992
Riverton A., Fremont Co., IA
*D. Rose, *B. J. Rose, *P. Allen, *Kent
P-0331, P-0332, IBL 62:76, 63:69

Record Number: 92-18
Classification: A-P

DOCUMENTATIONS

Doug Rose (10 May), 108 Hillcrest Dr., Glenwood, IA 51534
(6/30/93)

B. J. Rose (11 May), 14937 "N" St., Omaha, NE 68137

Pam Allen (12 May), 1601 Pleasant St., West Des Moines, IA
50265

Thomas H. Kent (12 May), 211 Richards St., Iowa City, IA 52246

PHOTOGRAPHS

B. J. Rose (11 May), P-0331

Reid Allen (12 May), P-0332

REFERENCES

Field Reports: IBL 62:76

Records Committee: IBL 63:69

VOTE: 7 A-P

A-P, Photographs clearly show diagnostic marks for Snowy Plover including broken breast band, black bill and legs.

A-P, Dark legs and bill eliminate similar Piping Plover. Photos diagnostic.

A-P, diagnostic photos of breeding male Snowy Plover.

A-P, Good, definitive photo of adult Snowy Plover. Good details submitted by documentations for Snowy Plover.



92-18

Snowy Plover 92-18 P-331
Riverton A., Fremont Co., IA
11 May 1992 B. J. Rose

92-18

Snowy Plover 92-18 P-331
Riverton A., Fremont Co., IA
11 May 1992 B. J. Rose

DOCUMENTATION FORM
For Extraordinary Bird Sightings in Iowa

92-18

What species? SNOWY PLOVER How many? 1

Location? RIVERTON W.M.A., FREMONT COUNTY IOWA

Type of Habitat? MUD FLATS

When? date(s): 5-10-92 ALSO 5-11 (OTHER OBSERVERS) 5-11 time: 5 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.

Who? your name and address: DOUG ROSE, 108 HILLCREST DR. GLENWOOD, IA.

Others with you: RUSS SULLOCK 31534

Others before or after you: B.J. ROSE (PHOTOS), TOM HEAT

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, undertail, legs, feet). Also mention voice and behavior.

I FOUND THIS SMALL PALE PLOVER THAT AT FIRST LOOK APPEARED TO BE A PIPING PLOVER. IT WAS WITH ABOUT 100 SEMIPALMATED PLOVERS. AFTER OBSERVING THE DARK LEGS, ~~AND~~ ALL DARK BILL AND THE BLACK MARKS AT THE SIDE OF THE BREAST, BEHIND THE EYE AND ON THE FOREHEAD, ROSS AND I WALKED WITHIN 30-40 YDS AND GOT EXCELLENT VIEWS. (WHAT A TIME TO NOT HAVE MY CAMERA!) THE BIRD FED WITH A RAPID RUN, MORE AGGRESSIVE THAN THE SEMIPALMS FEEDING. THE TOP OF HEAD WAS A RUSTY-BROWN JUST ~~BE~~ BEHIND THE BLACK FOREHEAD

Similar species; how eliminated: SEMI-PALM + PIPING - BOTH HAVE CRATER LIKE THIS BIRD HAD ALL BLK ALL BLACK BILL. SMALLER SIZE

Did any one disagree or have reservations about the identification? NO
If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), optical equipment.

LIGHTING EXCELLENT LOOKING WEST TO EAST LATE 5 P.M. I HAD BUSHNELL 10X50 BAUSCH+LOMB "DISCOVER" 600MM, DISTANCE WAS ABOUT 300 YDS (EST) TO ABOUT 30 YDS (EST)

Previous experience with species and similar ones: HAVE SEEN SNOWYS ON THE TEXAS COAST MOST RECENT 4-15-92

References and persons consulted before writing description: N.G.S. FIELD GUIDE 2ND EDITION

How long before field notes made? — this form completed? 1 WK

Send completed form to Field Reports or CBC editor (address on back cover of Iowa Bird Life).

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For Extraordinary Bird Sightings in Iowa

92-18

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Location? RIVERTON W.M.A., FREMONT COUNTY IOWA

Type of Habitat? WIND FLATS

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Others with you: RUSS SILCOCK 51534

Others before or after you: B.J. ROSE (PHOTOS), TOM HEAT

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, undertail, legs, feet). Also mention voice and behavior.

I FOUND THIS SMALL PALE PLOVER THAT AT FIRST LOOK APPEARED TO BE A PIPING PLOVER. IT WAS WITH ABOUT 100 SEMIPALMATED PLOVERS. AFTER OBSERVING THE DARK LEGS, ~~AND~~ ALL DARK BILL AND THE BLACK MARKS AT THE SIDE OF THE BREAST, BEHIND THE EYE AND ON THE FOREHEAD, ROSS AND I WALKED WITHIN 30-40 YDS AND GOT EXCELLENT VIEWS. (WHAT A TIME TO NOT HAVE MY CAMERA!) THE BIRD FED WITH A RAPID RUN, MORE AGGRESSIVE THAN THE SEMIPALMS FEEDING. THE TOP OF HEAD WAS A RUSTY-BROWN JUST ~~BE~~ BEHIND THE BLACK FOREHEAD

Similar species; how eliminated: SE. III PLOVER + PIPING - BOTH HAVE CRATER LEGS THIS BIRD HAD ALL BLK ALL BLACK BILL. SMALLER SIZE

Did any one disagree or have reservations about the identification? NO
If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), optical equipment.

LIGHTING EXCELLENT LOOKING WEST TO EAST LATE 5 P.M. I HAD BUSHNELL 10X50 BAUSCH+LOMB "DISCOVER" 600MM, DISTANCE WAS ABOUT 300 YDS (EST) TO ABOUT 30 YDS (EST)

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DOCUMENTATION

SPECIES: **Snowy Plover (Charadrius alexandrinus)**

HOW MANY: 1

LOCATION: Riverton Wildlife Refuge, IA

HABITAT: Shallow water mudflats, with some grassy patches near edge of wet mud leading to the water.

DATE: 12 May, 1992

TIME & LENGTH OF OBSERVATION: 3:00-5:30 p.m.

FIRST OBSERVATION MADE BY: Doug Rose of Glenwood, IA on a previous day

DOCUMENTER'S NAME & ADDRESS: Pam Allen, 1601 Pleasant Street, West Des Moines, IA 50265

OTHERS WHO SAW BIRD: Reid Allen, Ann Johnson, Thomas H. Kent, W. Ross Silcock and Richard Tetrault

DESCRIPTION OF BIRD: This was a very small plover, whose overall appearance was very pale in color. Because of its light coloration, it was easy to locate among the other shorebirds with which it was associating. The bird's bill was black, short and thin; the top of the head to the back of the head was a pale, creamy, buffy color. It was smaller than the Semi-palmated Plovers which were very close to this bird. The short legs were a greyish, yellow-green color. There were distinct black markings across the top of the forehead, behind the eye and below the neck, close to where the wing joins the body. The back and wings were a pale buffy, grey color. The breast, belly, undertail covers and throat were white. There was a black line over the middle of the tail. **Photographs (2) taken by Reid Allen are enclosed.**

SIMILAR SPECIES AND HOW ELIMINATED: Piping Plover is a little larger and has "orangish" colored legs. The black breast band did not extend across the entire breast of this bird and the Piping Plover has no black patch behind the eye.

VIEWING CONDITIONS: Mostly sunny, although the wind was blowing furiously.

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PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WITH SPECIES:

None.

EQUIPMENT:

Kowa TSN-4 spotting scope; Bushnell 8x36 Custom Binoculars. Minolta X-700 camera.

REFERENCES CONSULTED:

FIELD GUIDE TO THE BIRDS OF NORTH AMERICA, National Geographic Society, Second Edition, 1987.
THE AUDUBON SOCIETY MASTER GUIDE TO BIRDING, Volume 1, Alfred A. Knopf, 1983.

HOW LONG BEFORE FIELD NOTES MADE:

During observation of bird.

HOW LONG BEFORE THIS FORM COMPLETED:

June 5, 1992.

Doc Rose of Glenwood, IA on a previous day

Field Allen, Ann Johnson, Thomas H. Kent, Jr. Felt, Sirock and Richard Terzani

Field Allen, Ann Johnson, Thomas H. Kent, Jr. Felt, Sirock and Richard Terzani

This was a very small plover, whose overall appearance was very pale in color. Because of its light coloration, it was easy to locate among the other shorebirds with which it was associated. The bill was black, short and thin, the tip of the head the back of the head was a pale, creamy buff color. It was smaller than the Semipalmated Plover which were very close to this bird. The shore birds were greyish, yellow-green color. There were dark black markings across the top of the forehead behind the eye and below the neck. Close to where the wing joins the body. The back and wings were pale buff, grey color. The breast, belly and throat were white. There was a black line over the middle of the tail. Photographs taken by Field Allen are enclosed.

Piping Plover is a little larger and has a colored legs. The black breast band did not extend across the entire breast of this bird and the Plover has no black patch behind the eye.

Mostly sunny, although the wind was blowing

FIRST OBSERVATION MADE BY

DOCUMENTERS NAME & ADDRESS

OTHERS WHO SAW BIRD

DESCRIPTION OF BIRD

SIMILAR SPECIES AND HOW ELIMINATED

VIEWING CONDITIONS

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DOCUMENTATION OF EXTRAORDINARY BIRD SIGHTING

Species: Snowy Plover; *Number:* 1

Location: Riverton Area, Fremont Co., Iowa

Date: 12 May 1992; *Time:* 4:45 to 6:00 p.m.

Name and address: Thomas H. Kent, 211 Richards St., Iowa City, IA 52246.

Others before/with/after: Found by Doug Rose and Ross Silcock two days before; Ross, Dick Tetrault, Ann Johnson, Reid Allen, and Pam Allen there with me.

Habitat and circumstances: mud flats

Description of bird: A small plover visible at great distance due to very light (white) color; at close range it was slightly smaller than Semipalmated Plover in same field of view. Tiny, thin black bill. White above bill with black forehead bar. Black patch from eye down and posteriorly. Short black crescent at side of neck. Top of head was slightly buffier than rest of upper parts. Eye was dark. All white below and light gray-white above. Darker at shoulder and along edge of wing. Legs were a dusky gray-green. In flight, there was an indistinct dark wing line and a light line at midwing posterior to the darker line. The tail had a dark center line from anterior to posterior and white outer sides. The bird was tamer than other shorebirds and did not flush when they did. It fed at the edge of a shallow pool.

Voice: Not heard.

Similar species: Piping Plover has orange legs, a more complete neck band, orange base to bill and lacks mark behind eye and central tail line.

Any one have reservations?: No.

Light: Sun behind viewers; *Distance:* 1/4 mile to 20 yards (est); *Optics:* 10x binocular, 20x scope.

Previous experience: Have seen on 4 in Iowa and many in southwest.

References before/after viewing: None before.

Time of notes: While viewing; form handwritten at 5 hours; *Final typing:* 3 days.