

Species: LITTLE BLUE HERON

Record No. 200 - 87 - 04

Location: MILWAUKIE, CLACKAMAS CO.

Date(s): JUNE 18, 1987

Observers	details	slides	prints	tapes
CAROL KINCH	A.			

Specimen no. & location \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Accepted 9-0

Not accepted \_\_\_\_\_

verified \_\_\_\_\_

origin questionable \_\_\_\_\_

Single rept. sighting  \_\_\_\_\_

exotic not estab. \_\_\_\_\_

Multiple rept. sighting \_\_\_\_\_

Records split \_\_\_\_\_

Records combined \_\_\_\_\_

### Disposition

Secretary's File

Duplicate File

Main File A \_\_\_\_\_

details A \_\_\_\_\_

Slide File \_\_\_\_\_

slides \_\_\_\_\_

Print File \_\_\_\_\_

prints \_\_\_\_\_

Tape File \_\_\_\_\_

tapes \_\_\_\_\_

Date observer(s) notified: JAN. 2, 1988

200-87-041

Little blue heron

mid 7/10/87

June 18th, 1987

Bird seen from 2:00 PM to about 2:30 PM in full sunlight . It was by a pier just north of Elk Island on the Willamette River, east bank. It was about half the size of a great blue heron. A trim dark slate heron with a lighter neck and head. The neck and head were a reddish gray from where I was. The bill was dark blue at the upper end and glistened in the sun. The distal end was black.

The bird moved about slowly and cautiously with neck extended and head somewhat downward. At one point it caught a small fish which it held for a few moments and then flipped it around and swallowed.

The legs were dark and the eye was also dark as far as I could see.

It was in company with seventeen feral geese, four mallards sleeping in the sun, a female Common merganser also asleep, an immature <sup>w. heron</sup>glaucous gull and a mature ring bill gull. The heron was the only bird that was active.

I used a 25x telescope from the seventh floor roof of Willamette View Manor, far enough away so that I could barely see the bird with the naked eye.

After I had watched it for about half an hour I went down and pulled out the books and looked it up. I find the best illustration by far is in the Geographic bird book, second edition. I also used Peterson, and Robbins "Golden guide". I also have seen little blue herons while I spent ~~2~~ three years in Vermont where they ~~are~~ <sup>were</sup> more or less common. I have seen two in Nebraska also. Vermont 1951-53

It was gone an hour later as were the ducks and a great blue heron had taken over the pier.

Apparently it was a fine specimen of little blue heron in non-breeding plumage...and there is really no reason why it should not wander this far north....and I can't figure out anything else it could possibly have been. Besides, I've seen 'em before.

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Happy - for your files or whatever -  
C.K.