

Name of Observer

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Bird Identification

One adult female Frigatebird (probably Magnificent).

Date(s)

Saturday, May 7, 2016--afternoon. Weather was clear.

Location

Mosier, Oregon (Wasco County). The habitat it flew over was near the Columbia River, and included oak/pine habitat, the small community of Mosier (houses, yards with some large oaks). When I saw it, I was in a backyard of a home in Mosier.

Details

It was soaring over Mosier, first closer to the Columbia River, and then it kept circling, soaring towards the south (where it was overhead), and eventually headed east, and I lost sight of it. I believe it was an adult female because it had a white breast and dark head. (I clearly saw the dark body, dark wings, white breast, and others saw the dark head, although I can't say I got a good look at its head myself). It was huge (larger than an eagle), with a very long, "hooked" bill; very, very long, "angular" wings; and a very, very long, forked tail. To make sure we hadn't mistaken it for an osprey or a kite, I checked on my app (I have iBirdPro), and it was nothing like an osprey or a kite--not in size or shape or plumage.

Anything else you want to add?

About 15-20 people saw the bird, including outdoor writer Bill Monroe. I am not aware that anyone took photos or videos.

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