

# Long Point Bird Observatory Rare Bird Report Form

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In order that any sight record or banding of a rare species can be confirmed for the historical record, it must be properly documented. LPBO cooperators are therefore asked to complete a form in every case where a rarity is being claimed. Guidance as to which species are considered rare in the Long Point area may be obtained from the LPBO Program Coordinator and in the Long Point Area Checklist found in *A Birding Guide to Long Point Area*. Each observer should prepare his/her description independently and preferably before consulting any field guides or other literature.

PLEASE PRINT.

**Species claimed:** White Ibis

**No. of birds:** 2

**Age:** 1<sup>st</sup> cycle alternate

**Sex:** Unknown

**Date(s):** May 11, 2012

**Place:** Old Cut Research Station – Long Point

**Time(s) of Observation:** 0850

**Who first saw the bird(s):** Unknown birders

**Who first identified it:** Stu Mackenzie

**Other observers (names and addresses):**

Fanny Senez-Gagnon c/o LPBO

Three unidentified European birders. They had left before I was able to track them down and ask for their names and addresses.

**Any who disagree:** No

**Your previous experience with the species:** Observed many throughout the southern US.

**Your previous experience with any closely similar species:**

**(a) Formerly:** Have observed all Ibis species in the Western Hemisphere.

**(b) Same day:** None

**Species present for comparison:** None

**Which were beside it for comparison:** None

**Distance from observer(s):** 250-750m

**How measured:** Estimate

**Optical aids used:** 8.5 x42 Swarovski EL

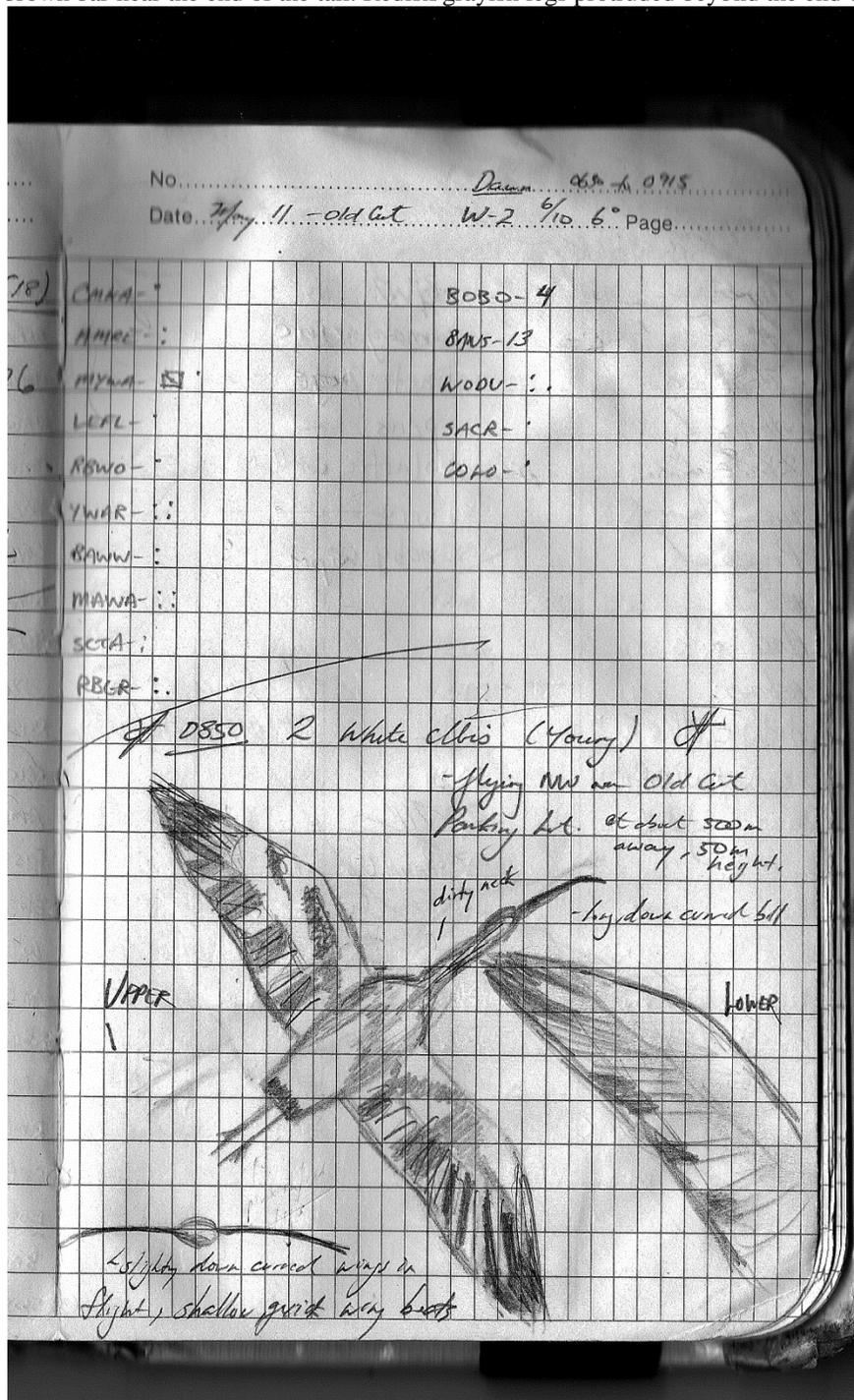
**Weather conditions (at time of observation)****Visibility:** 30km**Cloud Cover:** 6/10**Lighting:** Indirect sun**Wind direction and speed:** W-2 (beaufort)**Other relevant conditions:**  
(eg. rain, snow cover, etc.)**For "Waterbird " records only****Lake conditions:****Wave height:****Height of observer above lake:****Was observer's position sheltered:****Weather system preceding the date of observation (if known):** None*Attach weather map clipping from local or national newspaper if relevant.***Associated movements of other species:** None**Was the bird trapped:** No**Band # if banded:****Was it photographed:****If yes, by whom (name and address):****Specimen or parts preserved:****Present location:****Circumstances:**

While working inside the banding laboratory of the Old Cut Research Station I noticed a group of three European birders that had been visiting Old Cut that day looking up from the Old Cut Blvd. rather suspiciously. I quickly exited the lab, and made my way into the parking lot when I caught the tail end of the two birds they were fixated on cresting the tree tops across the road toward the intersection of Old Cut Blvd. and Dickinson Ave. heading in a north-westerly direction. After a brief moment of admiration, disbelief, and realization (5-10 seconds), I yelled 'White Ibis', as I watched the birds disappear behind the trees to the north. Ass luck would have it, most of the assistants and researchers were out in the woodlot or inside the house, and the only observers were myself, Fanny, and the unidentified Europeans that vanished in the commotion. Apparently another volunteer had learned that they were late for a flight. Just as the birds were out of sight, I was immediately on the phone to some of the researchers in the area and to BSC colleagues to alert them of the observation. Jesse Pakkala and I took to the streets and searched the nearby access points off Old Cut Blvd., and the Provincial Park, but we had no luck relocating the birds. Given the bird's height and flight behaviour, passive flight and short glides, it appeared as though they were looking for a place to settle.

**Description:**

Give separate description for (a) in the field (b) in the hand. Include full measurements and wing formula with hand descriptions.

The birds were cormorant sized, but had a gentler, passive flight with slight bowed wings, long neck with a heavy-headed posture (slight bend (crick) in the neck). Their flight was direct with fairly quick and stiff wing beats. They made shore intermittent glides as they flew over and disappeared behind the trees. The bill was long and down curved and appeared pinkish. The birds were heavily mottled brown and white, but were still predominantly brown overall. The head and neck were a rusty brown/white wash blending into a patchwork of brown and white plumage on the back. The upper wings were also a patchwork of retained brown and fresh white feathers. The underwing coverts appeared to be mostly a dirty off-white. The tail appeared to be mostly retained as there was a distinct brown bar near the end of the tail. Reddish/grayish legs protruded beyond the end of the tail.



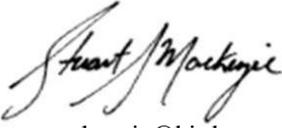
**Did you refer to any guides/other literature:** no

**(a) at the time:** no

**(b) afterwards:** no

**Finally, is this record 100% certain?** Yes

**Signed:**

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stuart Mackenzie". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the "Signed:" label.

**E-mail Address:**smackenzie@birdscanada.org

**Date:** July 18, 2013

**Mailing Address:** c/o LPBO