

**From:** azfo@azfo.org  
**Subject:** ABC Report of Hudsonian Godwit observed on 26\_May\_2003 by Peter Moulton  
**Date:** June 4, 2010 at 7:26 PM  
**To:** Kurtrad@att.net, drbrdr@worldnet.att.net, ghrosenberg@comcast.net  
**Cc:** moultonpj@yahoo.com

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## Hudsonian Godwit (*Limosa haemastica*)

**Date observed:** 26 May 2003  
**Initial observer(s):** Cynthia Donald, Peter Moulton  
**Exact location:** Eastern pond on Lower River Rd, ca 1 mile north of Palo Verde, 2 miles west of Palo Verde Rd.  
**County:** Maricopa  
**City:** Palo Verde  
**Elevation:** ca 1100 ft

**Submitted by:** Peter Moulton.

**Number observed:** 1  
**Age:** adult(?) Could have been a yearling, based on somewhat pale coloration  
**Sex:** unknown

**Time observed:** ca 0900  
**Duration of observation:** ca 15 minutes  
**Minimum distance from bird:** Varied, as close as 30-40 ft on occasion  
**Optics used:** 10X42 binocular  
**Position of sun:** Bird frontlighted by bright morning sun  
**Habitat:** Farm pond surrounded by agricultural fields

**Others who observed this bird:** No other observers, as far as I know  
**Anyone known to disagree:** No

**Was the bird identified before consulting any guides:** No  
**Identification guides used:** standard field guides  
**Were notes taken before or after the observation:** After  
**How well was the bird seen:** Moderately Well

### Detailed description:

Bird never observed with any other species, but seemed approximately size of Western Willet. Wings from above dark, with brownish cast to coverts, blackish remiges, narrow, but conspicuous, white stripe in the bases of the secondaries and inner primaries. From below, wings blackish with a faint suggestion of the white stripe showing through. Rump and base of tail white. Tail mainly blackish, cut straight across, so that the bases of the outer rectrices were white, and the white rump/tail patch was approximately square. Underparts medium rusty anteriorly, shading to whitish on the belly and vent; finely and sparsely, but distinctly, barred blackish on flanks and lower belly. Bill somewhat longer than Western Willet's bill, straight to faintly recurved; pale (exact color not discerned) for basal half to two-thirds, tipped black.

### Vocalizations:

"ter-leeep", second syllable heavily stressed, slightly higher-pitched

### Behavior:

Bird seen only in flight, as it circled the pond several times, occasionally coming fairly close to us, and calling frequently

### What similar species were considered and why were they eliminated:

Western Willet with broader white wingstripe that includes the inner secondaries; paler wing coverts contrast strongly both with wingstripe and blackish primaries; lacks rusty tones; tail/rump mainly whitish, not strongly bicolored. Marbled Godwit has cinnamon underwings, lacks white wingstripe and rump. Black-tailed Godwit has brighter tawny neck and breast, mainly whitish underwings.

### Experience with species:

None with Hudsonian Godwit.

### Experience with similar species:

Substantial experience with Western Willet, Marbled Godwit. None with Black-tailed Godwit.

**Was the bird photographed:** No

**Submitter name:** Peter Moulton  
**Submitter email:** moultonpj@yahoo.com  
**Date and time submitted:** 6/4/2010 10:25:56 PM

**Date and time submitted:** 6/4/2010 10:29:30 PM

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Url:[http://www.azfo.org/ArizonaBirdReview/SubmittedHtml/HUGO\\_Palo\\_Verde\\_Moulton\\_26\\_May\\_2003.html](http://www.azfo.org/ArizonaBirdReview/SubmittedHtml/HUGO_Palo_Verde_Moulton_26_May_2003.html)