Species: Marbled Godwit

Location: 38.4516972, -82.3224117

Date: April 22, 2023

Bird Seen: 9:05 am to 10:15 am

Description: In lieu of physical material substantiating a record (e.g., specimen, diagnostic photograph, vocal recordings) a complete written description can serve as verification for the biological record. Please be as thorough as your field notes allow. Do not feel constrained by the space provided. Additional supporting descriptions/illustrations may be attached. Note that photographs or recordings WILL NOT BE RETURNED but become part of the permanent record for the observation.

Structure: (Overall size and shape plus details on the head, feet, tail, etc.)

Large sandpiper with long bill, slight upturn at tip. Bill
Long dark legs, bi-colored bill, pinkish base, dark at end.
Dark brown upper parts.

Plumage: (e.g. markings, coloration, molt)

Adult breeding plumage, barring on flanks, brilliant cinnamon color underwings, seen while stretching wings.

Description of any vocalizations, if heard:

Calls heard, spot on to the Audubon description of "kerrek."

Description of behavior:

Birds when seen, were working edge of the old lock wall.
Would preen, then stretch wings, then walk about a bit, then "roost" for a few minutes.
Habitat: (General and Specific)

Along the Ohio River, remains of the old lock at the Old Lock 27 in Pocahontas, Ohio.

Circumstances of observation: (Include details of distance to bird, optics employed, lighting in relation to observer and the bird)

Was originally 30-35, maybe less, yards from the birds when I first saw them. Was less than 10 yards when I saw them last just after 10am. I returned later around 10:45am and the birds were gone. See additional page for optics, etc.

Previous experience with this species:

Seen once before through spotting scope in Florida.

Experiences with similarly appearing species which are eliminated by your description: (Please be specific)

(i) Willet was present with the (3) Nursery Snipe on this morning.

Other observers: (Names, Addresses, E-mail please)

If the others agree with your identification they can sign this form here. If they care to provide additional details they can submit their own report.

Brandon Smith
David Patrick
Mike Griffith
Janet Keating

Additional observer signature:  

Additional observer signature:  

Additional observer signature:  
Binoculars - Vortex VIPER HD 12x50
Spotting Scope - Razor HD 27-60x85
Camera Body - Nikon D850
Camera Lens - AF-S NIKKOR 500mm f/4E FL ED VR.

More notes about birds being seen from WV side of Ohio River:

Birds were seen clearly through spotting scope from across the Ohio River by David Patick, Mike Griffith, and Janet Keating. The group was standing near the Kennedy Center Field; GPS coordinates (38.4497936, -82.3182278). At that time, approximately 9:54am, the birds were at the GPS coordinates I provided on the first page of this form.

Google maps shows a portion of the concrete abutment is in WV territory. I was there as the group of 3 could clearly see the birds, and was on the phone with them, too.

Photos provided.
Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and especially how did these influence this description:
The Sibley Guide to Birds Second Edition
Audubon App for iPhone

How long after observing this bird did you first write this description?
2 days.

Name: Bryan Smith
Address: [Redacted]
Date: 04.24.23
Signature: [Redacted]