

Colorado Field Ornithologists Sight Record Form

(This is a two-page report. Please print or type. Attach photographs and additional pages if necessary.)

Each table cell will automatically enlarge as you type!

ACCEPTED

CFO-RC FILE X: **2001-90**

RESULTS:

Species:(Common Name): VARIED THRUSH		(Scientific Name) <i>Ixoreus naevius</i>
Date(s) of occurrence: October 20, 2001		
Number of birds seen: One	Sex: Female	Plumage: Adult basic
Exact Location: Crow Valley Campground		
County: Weld	Nearest town: Briggsdale	Elevation: 4800 feet msl
Length of observation: Approximately one-half hour.		Time(s) of observation: Roughly 1:00 PM
Other observers who saw the bird(s) with you: Rachel Hopper, Glenn Walbek, and others		
Other Observers who independently saw the bird(s): Many. Hugh Kingery originally found the bird.		
Light Conditions (quality; direction relative to bird(s); position: Excellent. Mostly overcast.		
Optical equipment used: 7X42 Zeiss Bins.		
Distance from bird(s) (estimated unless otherwise noted): Varied. As close as 15 feet.		
Was bird(s) photographed? Yes, video		If so, have you submitted photos? Yes, stills from video.
Who took the photographs? Myself		

Describe the general and specific habitat in which the bird(s) occurred: **Riparian woodland and partially landscaped campground surrounded by open rangeland.**

Describe the bird's behavior (flying, feeding, habits, behaviors used in identifying the Species or in supporting the identification): **Observed in flight briefly. Otherwise bird was actively foraging on ground by turning over leaves. Very tame.**

Describe the bird in detail. This is the most important part of this report. Include the overall size and shape and how you placed the bird in the general group that you did. Give complete details of plumage, including head, throat, undersides, nape, back, wings and tail. Give particular emphasis to marks you used to identify the bird(s). Describe other important details, such as color and shape of bill, legs, eye, (etc.) that were important in making the identification. (Fill out this portion even if photographs are submitted; you may attach additional sheets, drawings, field sketches or copy field notes.

Having heard of the Varied Thrush being seen at Crow Valley Campground, I arrived at the site in early afternoon. Other birders were present and one individual (do not remember whom) pointed out the bird flying across a portion of the campground. The bird landed in an open grassy area of the park and proceeded to forage through the grass and leaf litter, very American Robin-like by hopping and scratching in the leaf litter. The bird was an obvious thrush with moderately long, straight bill, flattish to round crown, stocky build with moderately long tail. The bill was black on the upper mandible and bicolored black/light orange on the lower. The crown and lores were a dark grayish/black. A dark gray/black face mask extended from the lores posteriorly through the black eye to the rear of the head. A light orange supercilium separated the dark crown and face mask. The throat and upper breast were a light orange, which blended to a scalloped orange/white/and gray lower breast and flanks. The mantle, scapulars, and uppertail coverts were a dark gray. The wings were basically a dark gray/black, except for orange median and greater coverts and diagnostic light orange primary and secondary bars, which, when in flight, formed a broad orange wing stripe on the upper and lower wings. The tail was a dark gray, the vent was whitish, except for blackish, longitudinal streaking, and the legs were a light tan.





2001-90

(A)

♀ Varied Thrush

CVCG, Pawnee N.G., CO

23 Oct '01

(No. 24A)

27984

David LeatLerner



Describe bird's call or song: **None heard**

Discuss similar species and how you eliminated them: **The plumage pattern and structure eliminate all other species.**

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species? **Have observed other birds in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Texas, and Alaska.**

List books, guides, recordings or other sources consulted and how this influenced your identification (during and after observation): **None**

This report is from notes made during or after **XX** observation or later from memory

Date of written report: **12/3/01**

Reporting observer: **Larry Semo**

Signature:

Larry Semo

Reporting Observer's Address: **9054 Dover Street**

City: **Westminster**

State: **Colorado**

Zip: **80021**

**Send report to:
Colorado Birds Record Committee
c/o Tony Leukering
Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory**

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CBRC FILE #: **2001-90**

RESULTS:

Species: (Common Name) **Varied Thrush**

(Scientific Name) **Ixoreus naevius**

Date(s) of occurrence: **10/20/01**

Number of birds seen: **One**

Sex: **Female**

Plumage: **Adult**

Exact location: **Crow Valley Campground Picnic Area**

County: **Weld**

Nearest town: **Briggsdale**

Elevation: Approx. **5300 ft.**

Length of observation: **15-20 minutes**

Time(s) of observation: **Afternoon**

Other observers who saw the bird(s) with you: **Larry Semo**

Other observers who independently saw the bird(s): **MOB**

Light conditions (quality; direction relative to bird(s) and observers position: **Clear, calm, sunny**

Optical equipment used: **Leica 8 X 42**

Distance to bird(s) (estimated, unless otherwise noted): **15-20 ft.**

Was (were) bird(s) photographed? **Yes**

If so, are you submitting photos? **Yes/with permission**

Who took the photograph(s)? **Steve Messick**

Describe the general and specific habitats in which the bird(s) occurred: **Grassy area, cottonwood trees**

Describe the bird's (birds') behaviors, particularly behaviors that were used in supporting the identification, e.g., flying, feeding, habits: **Walking about on the ground feeding**

DESCRIPTION -- This is the most important part of this report. Include in these details the overall size and shape of the bird, how you placed the bird in the general group that you did, and give as many plumage details as possible, even including those that you feel might not have relevance to the specific identification. Features to include are the color(s) and/or patterns of the head, eyes, bill, back, folded wings, open wings, tail, chin, throat, breast, sides, flanks, belly, vent, and legs. Also, please include, where possible, shape of the whole bird, of the wings – folded or open, of the bill, and of the tail. Please fill out this portion even if photos are accompanying your report. We welcome attachments of additional sheets of description, drawings, field sketches, or copies of field notes. **Please see photos**

Describe the bird's (birds') call(s) and/or song(s), if noted:

SIMILAR SPECIES – This is another critical part of your report. Please discuss how you eliminated similar species from consideration: **Could not be any other species. Please see photos.**

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species? **I have seen a couple.**

List books, guides, recordings, or other sources consulted and how this influenced your identification (during and after observation):

This report was made from (check one) ___ notes made during observation ___ notes made after observation **X** later from memory.

Date and time of written report: **04/28/02**

Reporting observer: **Rachel Hopper**

Signature: *Rachel Hopper*

Reporting observer's address: **1721 Cottonwood Pt. Dr.**

City: **Ft. Collins**

State: **CO**

Zip: **80524**

Send report to:
Colorado Bird Records Committee
Tony Leukering
PO Box 660
Brighton, CO 80601

DOCUMENTATION OF RARE BIRD SIGHTING

2001-90

ACCEPTED

Species: Varied Thrush

R-24 Oct 01

Date(s): Oct. 16-17

Time seen: Oct. 16: 3:40 p.m. to 4:35 p.m. (H&U)

Locality: Crow Valley Campground, Pawnee National Grassland

Latilong: 40 104

Optical equipment: 8x42 binoculars

Photographs: By Steve Messick. Prints enclosed.

Number of birds seen: one

Sex: female Plumage: typical

Light conditions: Good

Distance from bird: 20-150 feet

Weather at time of observation: Clear:

Describe habitat: Mowed or short-grass lawn.

Describe behavior: We pulled into the parking place next to the binocular sign, and it flew up into a tree right in front of us. We watched it at 20 feet for 5 minutes, then walked the campground trail and saw absolutely no birds at all, so we came back, sat on a picnic bench, and watched the thrush feed (by now 50 yards away). She moved like a robin, but tossed leaves like a towhee as she searched for food. She spent almost all of the viewing time on the ground, although she did hop up on the picnic benches as she moved from one side of the lawn to the other.

Field marks observed: size, color, pattern, shape, bill, etc.:

Throat and breast orange; dusky gray band across chest.

Two orange wing bars and two oval orange spots further out on wings, below wing bars;

Speckled belly, gray flanks with vertical stripes.

Smooth gray back;

Orange supercilium, black eye brow;

Moved like a robin. Looked for food on ground by flipping leaves.

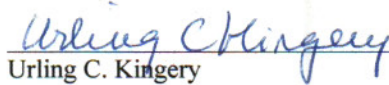
Bird's call or song: None heard.

Field marks not seen:

Similar species: Pretty distinctive bird. Different from robin by face and wings.

Prior experience: Once in Colorado, one summer in Washington.

Description from: Notes taken in field

Other observers: Carol Sullivan, June Morgan (jemorgan317@compuserve.com) report that they saw the bird earlier on Oct. 16.Steve Messick (<crowbar@mindspring.com>), who took these great photographs on Oct. 17.
Hugh E. Kingery
Urling C. Kingery

PO Box 584, Franktown CO 80116

2001-90



Varied Thrush, Crow Valley Campground, Weld County, 10/17/01, Steve Messick