

Colorado Field Ornithologists Sight Record Form *Rec'd - 7 Mar 02*
(this is a two page report-click at the bottom for page 2)CBRC FILE #: 2002-28
RESULTS: A

Print this page and then fill out. Attach photographs and additional pages if necessary.

Species (please include common and scientific names): Varied Thrush Ixoreus naeviusDate(s) of Observation: February 21, 2002Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: Female Plumage: adult non-breedingExact location: Crosier MT. Trail - DrakeCounty: Larimer Nearest town: Drake Elevation: 6500'Length of observation: 1 min. ? Time(s) of observation: 10:30 A.M.Other observers who saw the bird(s) with you: No one.Other observers who independently saw the bird(s): —Light conditions (quality; direction relative to bird(s) and observer(s) position): Fair (sunny day but shaded in woods)Optical equipment used: Canon image stabilized 12 x 36 BinocularsDistance to bird(s) (estimated, unless otherwise noted): 50 - 60'Was (were) bird(s) photographed? no If so, are you submitting photos?

Who took the photograph(s)?

Describe the general and specific habitats in which the bird(s) occurred:

Foothill location: Douglas Fir/Ponderosa Pine wooded Hillside with a gully with mostly frozen ice, some running water heard, juniper trees with "berries" along gully sides, some bush growth in gully.Describe the bird's (birds') behaviors, particularly behaviors that were used in supporting the identification, e.g., flying, feeding, habits:

Behavior - Flying. I noted a robin sized bird as it flew from trees near the gully across the trail and land in a Ponderosa Pine tree, on opposite side of trail. (left side of trail to right side of trail). I had

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stopped hiking, and had been focusing on several species at this time, so I just noted its silhouette-size as it flew. I totally expected to see a robin perched in the ponderosa tree, but thought that I'd check it out anyway.

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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.

The bird first landed on a branch with pine needles obscuring most of its body. The bird was positioned with its side towards me, head and only the upper part of wing visible. Being shaded the head appeared dark but I could clearly see the long orange eyebrow/supercilium, and the upper part of wing with a short orange wing bar. Could not see further down past the first wing bar, being blocked by the needles.

Soon the bird moved to another branch in the same ponderosa pine tree, now with the front of the bird totally exposed to my view.

Describe the bird's (birds') call(s) and/or song(s), if noted: The thrush remained silent. Quietly flew away out the back of the tree.

SIMILAR SPECIES -- This is another critical part of your report. Please discuss how you eliminated similar species from consideration. Several robins are observed along this foothill trail. However, robins have no wing bars, or supercilium, no neck band, throat is white with black vertical streaks, and have a yellowish bill.

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species? Varied Thrush seen and photographed at Crow Valley Campground, Briggsdale, CO. Oct 2001

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

National Geographic Field Guide to Birds of North America

Kenn Kaufman - Lives of North American Birds. Kenn Kaufman has excellent picture of belly & flank of Varied Thrush.

This report is from notes made from (check one) noted made during observation noted made after observation later from memory.

Date and time of written report: Feb. 24, 2002 and finished Mar. ⁶ 2002.

Reporting observer: Ruth Dick

Signature: Ruth Dick

Address: 2125 15 Street
Greeley CO 80631

Send report to: Colorado Birds Record Committee, Tony Leukering, PO Box 660, Brighton, CO 80601.

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Description:

I first noted the pale gray complete neck band that swooped down across its breast, orange throat, orange wash on belly. As I was looking up at it, (the bird was 20-25' in the lower branches of tree) the belly also appeared mottled/blotchy - honey comb pattern maybe - with pale gray and creamy white.

I did not see the legs; the bird appeared plump bellied sitting on the limb.

Bill was dark.

Area re-visited: Feb. 25, 2002
+
Mar. 5, 2002