

## COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

A

NEW STATE RECORD ☒UNUSUAL RECORD ☒

Please print or type. Attach photographs and additional pages if necessary.

Species: BLUE-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD / LEUCOPHAPS CLEMENTSII  
(Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name)Date(s): JULY 27, 1991Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: 1 Plumage: IMMATURELatilong: 23 Distribution Code: A Habitat Code: PJLocality: STRANSKY RESIDENCE Elevation: 6,500 FT ±Nearest town: DURANGO County: LA PLATATime(s) observed: 4:00 - 6:30 P.M.Duration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): SEVERAL 05-20 SEC. INTERVALS

Other observers who saw the bird with you (give names, addresses, telephone numbers):

BILL PRATHER, KIP STRANSKY

Other observers who saw the bird independently (give names, addresses, telephone numbers):

SEVERAL OBSERVERS AT THE RESIDENCE DURING AUGUST 30 + 31  
(BILLY ANDERSON, FRANK ANDERSON, JIM ANDERSON, BOB ANDERSON, BOB JAMES, JOE DANIEL, BOB ROLLER)

Light conditions (position of bird to light and shade, direction and strength of light):

CLEAR SKY, SUN LOW TO SKY BEHIND OBSERVER, NO WINDOptical equipment used (e.g. power, types): CAUCH + LOMB 8X42 ELITE BINOCULARSDistance and how measured: 15 FEET

If photographed, type of equipment and film: \_\_\_\_\_

Who else photographed the bird: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the bird's behavior (e.g. flying, feeding, or habits used in identifying):

FEEDING AT HUMMINGBIRD FEEDER AT RESIDENCE

Describe in detail the bird's relative size, overall shape, plumage and color pattern. Include details of bill, wing and tail shape. Give particular emphasis to marks you used to identify the bird. Reference to its resemblance to field guide descriptions and illustrations is not enough. Describe only what you actually observed in the field:

SEE ATTACHED PAGE

Description (continued): \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the bird's song and call, if given, including method of delivery, (i.e. from perch, in flight, duration):

LOUD SONG, SINGING FROM PERCH, WHEN ATTACKED BY  
RUFOUS HUMMINGBIRDS, GUARDING FEEDER.

Describe the general and specific habitat in which you observed the bird:

HUMMINGBIRD FEEDER AT RESIDENCE OVERLOOKING  
ANTHAS RIVER, PENYON - JUNIPER HABITAT.

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?

SIZE, TAIL PATTERN (BLACK TAIL W. LARGE WHITE SPOTS), -  
GRAY UNDERPARTS, OTHER PLUMAGE CHARACTERISTICS

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species?

VERY FAMILIAR WITH COMMON COLORADO HUMMINGBIRDS.  
SAW BLUE-THROATED AND MAGNIFICENT IN SOUTHEAST ARIZONA IN 1982.

List books, illustration, recordings, other birders, etc. consulted and how this influenced your identification:

a) At time of observation: NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC FIELD GUIDE

b) After observation: SEVERAL OTHER FIELD GUIDES

This report was written from reports made during \_\_\_\_\_, after observation \_\_\_\_\_, from memory X

Date and time report was written: 10:09, '91

Reporting observer: JOHN PRATHER Signature: John V. Prather

Address: 13810 WELD COUNTY ROAD #1 LONGMONT CO, 80504

All reports will be maintained permanently at the address below:

Return to: CURATOR, DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS  
DENVER MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY  
CITY PARK  
DENVER, CO 80205



A large female or immature (most likely) hummingbird. This bird was somewhat larger bodied than male Rufous and Broad-Tailed Hummingbirds with which it was closely compared on several occasions. Its bill was particularly long perhaps 25-30% longer than that of a Broad-Tailed or Rufous, and was more depressed than the bill of either of the two aforementioned species. The underparts of the bird were uniformly medium gray in color, with only a wash of green on the sides and flanks. The throat was also gray and had only a little dark flecking in it. The upperparts were entirely uniform dark green. The tail was entirely black with large white tips on the outer three feathers of each side, the white extending perhaps 30% of the way up the outermost feathers. When compared to other species coming to the feeders this bird's tail appeared quite long and broad. The bird had a very indistinct face pattern. A short postocular stripe, perhaps twice as long as it was wide, extended out behind the eye and a short white whisker mark bordered the top edge of the throat. The neck of this bird appeared very long and thin and the head seemed small in relation to the size of the bird. When the bird was in flight the wings made an audible hum, lower and quieter than that of a male Rufous Hummingbird. This bird was much more aggressive than the other female and immature hummingbirds coming to the feeders, often fighting with the male Rufous Hummingbirds which guarded the feeders.