

Report of Unusual Sight Record

Species: *Scotts Oriole*

Date: May 5, 1975 Hour: 8:00 AM
appears.

Location: Van Bibber Cr. Gap

Habitat: Cottonwoods along creek
not yet in leaf

Who first noted the bird? George Shier

Others who confirmed identification? Marie Shier

Did you know it was unusual when you observed it? *yes*

Did you have a good opportunity for observation (time, light, view, binoculars or spotting-scope)? *yes, almost full sun, some thin clouds.*

What experience have you had with this species previously?

observed it at Big Bend National Park and Sanit numerous times

How did you identify the bird? Describe in detail what you saw and heard in the field.

1. It was at first view an oriole feeding among cottonwood catkins
2. It had black head, throat and upper back. The breast and belly were bright yellow, no hint of orange. Rump was yellow with some extension part way on sides of tail, but the outer part of tail was black almost half way. I saw the bird and observed it for a while - 10 min. or so, then went for Marie and we both observed the bird and compared it in detail with Robbins which we had in hand.

What similar species might it have been? How were these eliminated?

The black head suggested a Baltimore oriole but had no other Baltimore marks - when we went back with book, it detailed exactly like a Scotts - we have seen many hybrids at Banbury But the lack of any orange color, the complete black head and neck, the brilliant yellow color and the tail and rump marks could only be a Scotts oriole. No marks of a Bullock's.

Name: *George K. Shier*

Date: May 5, 1975

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(Use other side or additional pages if needed.)

Last seen flying east down Van Bibber Creek

We were about 50' distant with 7 Power & 10 power glasses.