

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD REPORT
☒ RARE OR UNUSUAL RECORD ☐ NEW STATE RECORD

CFO-ORC FILE # 54-77-49

accepted go 9/28/77

Species: Scott's Oriole
(Vernacular Name)

Icterus parisorum
(Scientific Name-use binomial)

Date(s): May 21 1977 Time Bird Seen: about 2:45 pm to for about 10 min

Locality: Entrance to Unaweap Canyon (CFO convention)

Nearest Town: Whitewater

County: Niessa

Other observers who identified this bird:

NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
<u>Nancy Greenleaf</u>	<u>Colorado Springs</u>	
<u>Mrs Robert Gustafson</u>	<u>Grand Junction</u>	
<u>Mrs Helen Thorlow</u>	<u>Colorado Springs</u>	

Optical Equipment: 7x35 4th lady from Grand Junction - I have forgotten her name.

If photographed, type of equipment used:

Light Conditions: Clear, bright sun

Distance from Bird (how measured): estimated: 40-50 yards

Number of Birds Seen: 1 Sex: Male Plumage: breeding

Describe the circumstances on how you first came to notice the bird:

I joined the group of ^{Saw} ~~three~~ ladies standing by the roadside - they were looking at some cottonwood trees in which they said, an olive-sided Flycatcher was perched. I noted the Flycatcher and a moment later a bright yellow and black bird flew into the same cottonwood. Nancy Greenleaf called out almost immediately "Scott's Oriole". We all watched the bird for a few minutes without looking at the Field Guides - I later got Robbins out of the car and we compared the bird with the Guide.

Describe the bird's overall behavior and demeanor:

Was feeding & resting in cottonwood, not noticeably restless. Was obviously an Oriole.

Describe why you thought this species was rare or unusual:

I knew this was 3rd or 4th state record - for obvious reasons.

Describe the bird's song or call, if heard, including method of delivery, e.g., from perch, in flight, etc:

none

Describe the habitat in which you observed this bird:

Large cottonwoods at canyon entrance. Not unlike streamside situations where I have seen this species in Arizona (in spite of Robbins, my sightings of this species have more often been in riparian streamside than in pinyon-juniper.)

Describe in great detail the bird's size, overall shape, plumage and color-pattern. Include details on shape of bill, wings, tail and feet and legs. Describe only what you actually saw in the field:

When the bird flew in it was clearly an oriole from the color pattern. Also immediately obvious was the yellow, bright yellow rather than an orange color. We then had plenty of time to notice the black head - completely black - and the black chest and back. The yellow wings and underparts were clear. At one point the bird flew from one Cottonwood to another - upon alighting he spread his tail and the yellow windows and central black rectrices were very clearly visible.

Prior experience with this species and similarly appearing species:

Have seen this species about half dozen times in Arizona

How were similarly appearing species eliminated?

Orchard Oriole - color was so help me lemon yellow - no other adjective will do.

Various female or immature male orioles. Entire black head & back eliminates all

Black-headed oriole - not to be expected but black back and yellow tail windows eliminate this one.

Books, illustrations and advice consulted and how did these influence this documentation?

During sightings - Robbins

This report was written from notes made during ___ after ___ observation; from memory X

Signed: Paul R. Johnson Street Address: 1269 Chinook Way
Date Prepared: 16 Jun 77 Town and State: Boulder CO ZIP:

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