

43-93-29

SPECIES: BENDIRE'S THRASHER| TOXOSTOMA BENDIREI

(Vernacular Name)

(Scientific Name)

DATE(S): 8-1-93TIME OF OBSERVATION: 11:40 A.M. TO 12:20 P.M.EXACT LOCATION: 1 1/4 MILES WEST OF SAN LUIS ALONG STATE HWY 142NEAREST TOWN: SAN LUISCOUNTY: COSTILLA

OTHER OBSERVERS WHO INDEPENDENTLY IDENTIFIED THIS BIRD:

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT: BAUSCH & LOMB CUSTOM 8X36 BINOCULARS, SPACEMASTER SCOPE ASWEATHER CONDITIONS: CLEAR & SUNNYBIRD/SUN ORIENTATION: SUN WAS DIRECTLY OVERHEADDISTANCE FROM BIRD AND HOW MEASURED: 50 YDS ; APPROXIMATEDNUMBER OF BIRDS SEEN: 3SEX: PLUMAGE: 1 ADULT, 2 IMMATURE

BEHAVIOR AND DEMEANOR: THE BIRDS WERE ORIGINALLY SEEN ON A HILLSIDE COVERED WITH SAGE AND PINYON PINE, WHERE TWO WARRED THROUGH A PINYON PINE. ALL THREE THEN FLEW TO AN EMPTY CORRAL AT A FARM ACROSS THE ROAD WHERE THEY FORAGED ON THE GROUND AND SPENT HALF THE TIME SITTING ON A WIRE FENCE. THEY SEEMED TO USE THIS HEIGHT ADVANTAGE TO LOCATE BUGS AND OTHER FOOD ITEMS ON THE GROUND.

HEAD & NECK (forehead, crown, auricular & malar regions, median line, etc.):

MEDIUM BROWNISH GRAY ON CROWN, NAPE AND ON FACE ABOVE EYE; NO DISCERNIBLE COLOR CHANGE AT EAR; COLOR WARMER AND LIGHTER THAN SAGE THRASHER

EYES & LORES (supercilium, eye-ring, eye-stripe, color, etc.): EYES YELLOW; LORES SAME COLOR AS CROWN

LOWER & UPPER MANDIBLES (color & shape): UPPER MANDIBLE BLACK, SLIGHTLY CURVED; LOWER MANDIBLE BLACKISH WITH LIGHT FLESHY AREA AT BASE (ON IMMATURE)

LEGS & FEET: BLACK

UPPERPARTS (nape, back, rump, uppertail coverts, etc.): NAPE AND BACK AND RUMP WERE A WARM BROWNISH GRAY, LIGHTER THAN SAGE THRASHER; UNIFORM COLOR THROUGHOUT

UNDERPARTS (chin, throat, belly, sides, flanks, crissum, etc.): CHIN AND THROAT WERE VERY PALE BUFFY WHITE, ONE DARKISH WHISKER STRIPE ON EITHER SIDE OF THROAT; UPPER BREAST AND BELLY WERE SLIGHTLY MORE BUFF THAN THROAT AND UNDERTAIL COVERTS EVEN MORE BUFF; VERY FINE MARK ON BREAST EXTENDING HALF WAY TO LEGS; STREAKING ON FLANKS MORE DIFFUSE

UNDERTAIL COVERTS UNSTREAKED WITH A CINNAMON TONE

PRICES (inner, middle & outer tail feathers; color, pattern, shape, etc.):
VERY SLIGHTLY DARKER BROWNISH GRAY THAN BACK; NOT AS LONG
AS OTHER THRASHER TAILS; DISTINCT WHITE CORNERS THOUGH SMALL

WINGS (color, length, shape, bars, coverts, etc.): NO WING BARS; WING
OR SAME WARM BROWNISH GRAY AS UPPER PARTS; WING LENGTH
JUST SLIGHTLY PAST RUMP

LOCALIZATION (call/song, method of delivery, i.e., from perch, in flight):
NONE

HABITAT: SAGE BRUSH HILLSIDE ADJACENT WITH PINON PINE; BIRDS ALSO
OCCUPANTED A FARM CORRAL THAT WAS EMPTY, FEEDING ON THE GROUND

DISCRIMINATION OF SIMILARLY APPEARING SPECIES:

CURVE BILLED THRASHERS ARE MUCH MORE HEAVILY STREAKED THAN THESE
BIRDS AND ARE USUALLY DARKER IN OVERALL COLOR; CURVE
BILLED THRASHERS ARE LARGER, HAVE LARGER MORE DIFFUSE SPOTTING
UNDERNEATH AND HAVE A LONGER, MORE CURVED BILL. HABITAT THAT
THESE BIRDS FREQUENTED IS NOT THE NORMAL CURVE BILLED THRASHER
HABITAT AND BENDIRS IS MORE LIKELY THAN SAGE THRASHER TO
OCCUPANT BARNYARD CORRALS.

RELEVANT PRIOR EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND SIMILARLY APPEARING SPECIES:

NO PRIOR EXPERIENCE IN ARIZONA, VERY FAMILIAR WITH SAGE
THRASHER AND SOMEWHAT FAMILIAR WITH CURVE BILLED THRASHER.

SOURCES, ILLUSTRATIONS AND ADVICE CONSULTED THAT INFLUENCED THIS REPORT:

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC GUIDE TO THE BIRDS OF NORTH AMERICA;
AUDUBON'S MASTER SERIES GUIDE; PETERSON'S GUIDE TO
MEXICAN BIRDS; COLORADO BIRD DISTRIBUTION LAT/LONG STUDY;
KENN KAUFMAN'S GUIDE TO ADVANCED BIRDING.

THIS REPORT WRITTEN FROM NOTES MADE DURING X AFTER X OBSERVATION; FROM MEMORY

NAME: JOE MAMMOSER SIGNATURE: Joseph Mammoser DATE: 8-3-73