

rec'd 5/3/02

CFO-ORC FILE # 2002-43

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD ☐

UNUSUAL RECORD ☒

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

Species: Zone-tailed Hawk | Buteo albonotatus
(Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name)

Date(s): 27 April 2002

Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: male Plumage: adult

Locality: Southwest part of Pueblo (City Park to S of Pueblo Res) Elevation: _____

Nearest town: Pueblo County: Pueblo

Time(s) observed: Approximately noon → 12:30 PM

Duration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): Entire period with brief loss of contact to drive ahead

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

David C. Ely and Joe Magnusson (see their reports submitted separately)

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

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

Variable, from looking into sun to with sun at back

Optical equipment used (e.g. power, types): 8x42 B&L Elites

Distance, and how measured: As close as 150 feet (difficult to estimate)

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):

Bird was soaring vulturelike on teetering wings (never flapped that I can recall) into stiff SW-W wind. Stayed relatively low over trees, open terrain, and rocky bluffs, working back & forth, but always progressing E to W.

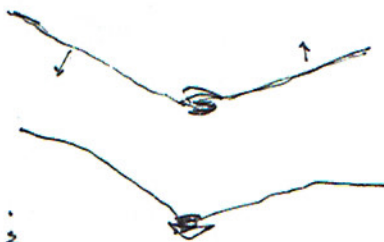
Describe in detail the bird's relative size, overall shape, plumage and color pattern.

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 observe in the field:

First thought this was a turkey vulture as it passed directly overhead and away from Dave & I to the west. Overall, the bird was dark, with a long, sleek set of features: long two-toned wings (inner wing dark blackish, outer feathers blackish gray), wings held in distinct dihedral or upward "V", did not flap but stiffly teetered into the strong wind, (2) tail longish and rather narrow, tail @ wide black band at tip, then broad white band, then another black band (rather broad), then less conspicuous white band, and base was black. Tail was what got us very interested in bird, in combination with otherwise vulturelike appearance & fashion of soaring. Above first noted as bird went away from us at west edge of



Tail shape &
Pattern
(see below)



postures
of flight

Description (continued):

Pueblo City Park to the west. We then started off by car to recontact the bird, going west on Goodnight and over to Thatcher/SR 96. Then west. We refound the bird near Valco Ponds and got several more good looks. During the closest, with the sun at our backs, we could see the yellow cere on the bird and pale legs. It appeared P3 or P4 was missing on both wings which actually gave appearance of white slash on both upper & lower wing surface. Lost the bird south of SR 96 south of Pueblo Res. about @ turn-in to South Marina, while the bird soared over arid bluffs. Upper surface all dark (except for tail pattern (same as from below))

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

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

At first, over urban park, then working back & forth over open rocky bluffs & SR 96 from Pueblo Blvd to west of the turn-in to South Marina at Pueblo Res.

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?

Long wings & tail, teetering flight eliminated dark-phase Ferruginous and Black Hawk. Yellow-cere eliminated Turkey Vulture, along with tail pattern. Too big for Brock-wing, tail pattern wrong. Tail pattern & habit of flight not right for Rough-leg, Red-tail, Short-tailed (dark phases).

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

I have seen thousands of Turkey Vultures one Zone-tailed (immature), several dark Ferruginous, a few Black-Hawks, several dark Rough-legs, no Short-tails, many dark Red-tail/Hairons. No doubt this bird was a Zone-tailed Hawk.

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

a) at time of observation: Sibley

b) after observation: Sibley, Nat'l. Geo., Wharles, Hawks in Flight, Audubon Master, Kaufmann,

This report was written from reports made during _____, after observation ☒ from memory ☒
Date and time report was written: 28 April 2002 11 PM

Reporting observer: Dave Leatherman Signature: David A. Leatherman

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9002-43

rec'd 5/25/02

SPECIES: ZONE TAILED HAWKBUTEO ALBONOTATUS

(Vernacular Name)

(Scientific Name)

DATE(S): 4-27-02TIME OF OBSERVATION: 12:00 TO 12:30EXACT LOCATION: PUEBLO CITY PARK TO VALCO PONDS TO ENTRANCE OF PUEBLO RES.NEAREST TOWN: PUEBLO COUNTY: PUEBLO

OTHER OBSERVERS WHO INDEPENDENTLY IDENTIFIED THIS BIRD:

DAVE LEATHERMAN, DAVE ELYOPTICAL EQUIPMENT: BAUSCH & LOMB ELITE 10X40 BINOCULARSWEATHER CONDITIONS: PARTLY SUNNY, HIGH CLOUDS, FAIRLY WINDYBIRD/SUN ORIENTATION: SUN OVERHEAD, BIRD TO THE SOUTHDISTANCE FROM BIRD AND HOW MEASURED: RANGED FROM 150 YARDS TO 1/4 MILENUMBER OF BIRDS SEEN: 1 SEX: _____ PLUMAGE: ADULT

BEHAVIOR AND DEMEANOR: THE BIRD WAS SOARING MUCH THE WAY TURKEY VULTURES DO. THE WINGS WERE HELD IN THE TYPICAL DIBEDRAL POSITION (WE WATCHED THE BIRD FOR APPROXIMATELY 1/2 HOUR AND COVERED 3-4 MILES DURING WHICH WE NEVER SAW IT FLAP ITS WINGS). THE BIRD WOULD COAST ALONG ABOVE THE EDGE OF THE BLUFF FROM THE MIDDLE OF OUR SIGHTING TO THE END AND APPEARED THE SAME SIZE AS NEARBY

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

BLACK, FULLY FEATHERED HEAD (NO BARE SKIN). THE HEAD LOOKED SOMEWHAT SQUAT AGAINST THE BODY OF THE BIRD AND APPEARED LARGER THAN A TYPICAL TURKEY VULTURE

EYES & LORES (supercilium, eye-ring, eye-stripe, color, etc.): WE COULD NOT ACTUALLY SEE THE EYES

LOWER & UPPER MANDIBLES (color & shape): BILL APPEARED DARK, BUT WE COULD CLEARLY SEE A YELLOWISH CERE

LEGS & FEET: APPEARED PALE AGAINST THE DARKER TAIL.

UPPERPARTS (nape, back, rump, uppertail coverts, etc.): ALL BLACK, SIMILAR IN COLOR TO A TURKEY VULTURE

UNDERPARTS (chin, throat, belly, sides, flanks, crissum, etc.): ALL BLACK, SIMILAR IN COLOR TO A TURKEY VULTURE

RETRICES (inner, middle & outer tail feathers; color, pattern, shape, etc.):

THE TAIL WAS LONG AND HELD SOMEWHAT STRAIGHT. IT WAS PREDOMINANTLY BLACK WITH 2 DIRTY WHITISH BANDS, THE DISTAL BAND BEING THICKER THAN THE ONE CLOSEST TO COVERTS

WINGS (color, length, shape, bars, coverts, etc.): THE WING LININGS WERE BLACK SAME AS BODY OF BIRD. THE FLIGHT FEATHERS WERE SOMEWHAT LIGHTER GIVING THE WING A TWO-TONED EFFECT.

FLIGHT FEATHERS WERE ALSO FAINTLY BARRED. THE WINGS ALSO LOOKED

VOCALIZATION (call/song, method of delivery, i.e., from perch, in flight):

NONE

HABITAT: PARK-LIKE TERRAIN AT CITY PARK TO THE DRY BLUFFS ALONG THE HIGHWAY AT VALCO PONDS AND TO THE SOUTHWEST

ELIMINATION OF SIMILARLY APPEARING SPECIES:

TURKEY VULTURE DOES NOT HAVE HEAD SHAPE OR COLOR. ALSO DOES NOT HAVE WHITE BANDED TAIL. DARK PHASE OF OTHER BUTED TYPICALLY HAVE LIGHTER FLIGHT FEATHERS AND DIFFERENT TAIL PATTERNS. BLACK HAWK HAS A DARKER WING WITH LIGHT AREAS AT BASE OF PRIMARIES AND HAS ONLY ONE WHITE BAND ON TAIL. THE WINGS ALSO ARE MORE BROAD ON A BLACK HAWK. BLACK VULTURE ALSO HAS BROADER, MOSTLY BLACK WINGS WITH A PRONOUNCED WHITE PATCH AT BASE OF PRIMARIES. BLACK VULTURE ALSO HAS A WIDER, ALL-BLACK TAIL.

PRIOR EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND SIMILARLY APPEARING SPECIES:

I HAVE SEEN MANY HUNDREDS OF TURKEY VULTURES.

I HAVE SEEN NUMEROUS BLACK VULTURES IN ARIZONA, TEXAS AND FLORIDA

I HAVE SEEN 3 BLACK HAWKS IN ARIZONA

I HAVE SEEN ONLY ONE PREVIOUS ZONE TAILED HAWK IN TEXAS ACTING EXACTLY AS THIS ONE DID

BOOKS, ILLUSTRATIONS AND ADVICE CONSULTED THAT INFLUENCED THIS REPORT:

THIS REPORT WRITTEN FROM NOTES MADE DURING ☒ AFTER ☒ OBSERVATION; ☐ FROM MEMORY

NAME: JOSEPH MAMMOSER SIGNATURE: Joseph Mammoser DATE: 5/1/02