

CLW Photo Record Form**RC FILE X:****RESULTS:****Reporting Observer:** Christopher L. Wood, zeledonia@cfo-link.org

8050 Niwot Road, #4, Longmont, Colorado

Signature:**Species:** Broad-billed Hummingbird, *Cynanthus latirostris***Date (s) of occurrence:** 22 November 2002**Number of birds seen:** One adult female**Location:** 576 36 Road, Clifton, Colorado, Mesa County**Length of observation:** Total of 15 minutes.**Time (s) of observation:** 9:05-10:05**Other observers who saw the bird (s) with you:** Doug Faulkner**Conditions:** Sunny, warm (50s), no wind**Optical equipment used:** Leica 8 x 42 binocular. Leica APO Televid scope with 32 x eyepiece. Below images all taken through Leica scope using Nikon Coolpix 995 or Sony DCR-PC9 video camera (in which case these are "captured" still images from video). Video submitted separately.**Distance from bird (s) (estimated unless otherwise noted):** 3-15 meters**Habitat:** Hummingbird feeders in rural area of Clifton.

Details: Doug Faulkner and I went to Clifton to look for the Broad-billed Hummingbird that had been seen by many Colorado birders over the past two weeks. Evidentially, the bird was present all summer, but birders did not become aware of it until Steve Bouricius saw and captured the bird in November.

Once Doug and I arrived, we waited for about 5 minutes before I heard the Broad-billed Hummingbird call and saw it flying toward the feeder. The call was different from other North American hummingbirds and sounded most like "chi-chi-chit," not unlike the similar call of a Ruby-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus calendula*). The call was perhaps a bit drier than that species, with each note a bit more distinct.

We saw the bird come in a total of five different times. Each time the



Figure 1. (Image taken with Nikon Coolpix 995)

(Continued on page 2)

Previous Experience: I have seen a few hundred Broad-billed Hummingbirds on several different occasions in both Arizona and Mexico. I most recently saw them this spring in Mexico. I have spend much more time studying Black-chinned Hummingbirds (and Ruby-throated) in the field mostly in CO, BC, AZ, OK and Mexico. I have also seen and studied all other regularly occurring hummingbirds in the ABA area that one could confuse with this species (White-eared, Magnificent, Blue-throated).

References: None

Date of written report: 19 November 2002

This report is from notes made immediately after observation.

(Continued from page 1)

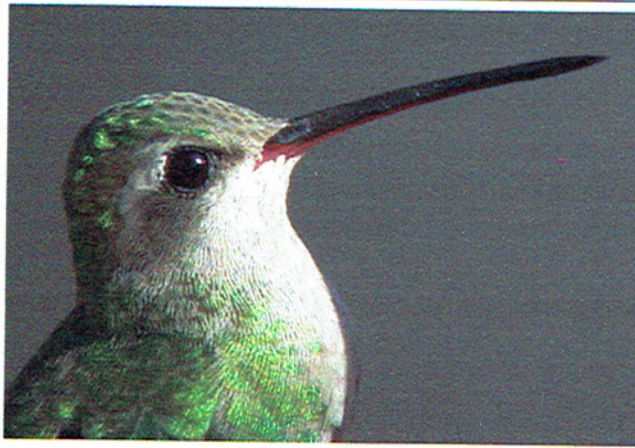


Figure 2 (Nikon Coolpix cropped image)

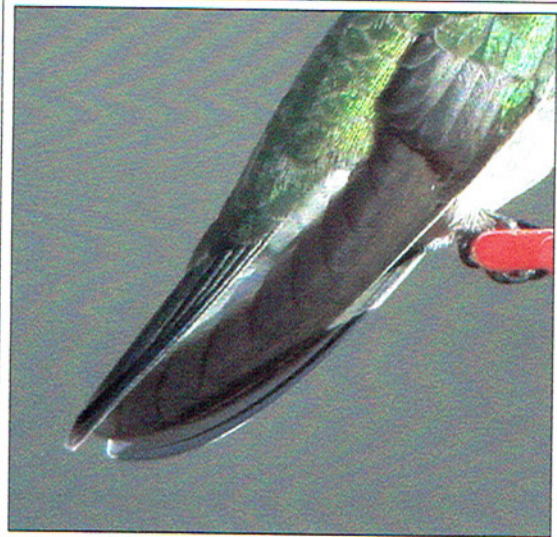


Figure 3 (Nikon Coolpix cropped image)

bird landed near the center of a deciduous tree near the feeder before going to feed. The bird remained in the tree for 10-45 seconds, usually changing perches three to five times before feeding. At times, the hummingbird would call while perched; these calls were typically accompanied with a rapid flick and spread of the tail while flashing the wings open. While hovering the tail was often bobbed. The hummingbird sometimes explored other bright objects near the house, before going to either of the hummingbird feeders.

The hummingbird used the perches of the hummingbird feeders, rather than feeding in flight. While perched and feeding at the feeder, the bird was quite alert. Loud sounds and sudden movements sometimes scared her away from the feeder. If she had just started feeding she would often fly to a nearby tree and revisit the feeder after 40-90 seconds.



Figure 4 (Nikon Coolpix cropped image)

Description: The hummingbird was medium in size for a North American hummingbird. It appeared rather long necked, broad-tailed and had a medium-long bill (Figures 1, 2 and 4). In good light, the gape and the base of the underside of the bill appeared reddish, but otherwise the bill was dark. The bill was rather broad near the base (Figure 4). In the shade, the red on the bill could not be seen (Figure 5). The wings ended just before the tip of the tail (Figure 3) and were always held below the tail when we saw the bird perched. The primaries were rather broad, with P10 noticeably narrower (Figure 3). Primary molt had already been completed (Figure 3). The upperparts, scapulars, wing coverts and sides of breast were bright glittering golden emerald-green, with the breast perhaps slightly less golden. Feathers on upperparts narrowly edged in buff. The flanks underneath where the wings were held were the same emerald green as the breast. At some angles the forecrown appeared very buffy (Figure 2), but at others the entire crown seemed only slightly darker green, with individual crown feathers edged in buff (Figure 4). The face showed a contrasting gray auricular patch, bordered above by a narrow pale gray post-ocular stripe (with a slightly brighter white post-ocular spot), and below by the bird's pale gray throat. The throat, center of the breast, and belly were pale gray. There were no blue-green feathers on the throat as one would expect with an immature male Broad-billed Hummingbird. The eyes and feet were dark. A band was visible on rare occasions on the bird's left leg (Figure 5).

(Continued from page 2)

The fairly long tail usually appeared dark, but in good light, the base of the uppertail was shimmering green, becoming deep blue distally. I could not discern the exact pattern of blue and green beyond this.

Whitish tips noticeable on R4 and R5 and with good views one could see a very narrow whitish tip to R3 (noted from below).

Separation from similar species was straightforward. Black-chinned Hummingbirds show less contrasting auriculars that are paler than on this bird. They also have much narrower inner primaries (see Figure 3). Female Black-chinned Hummingbirds would rarely show this much green on the sides of the breast. The vocalizations of Black-chinned Hummingbirds are very different. Black-chinneds have shorter bills,

without the reddish color shown in Figure 2. Blue-throated Hummingbirds are larger, have longer tails with conspicuous white corners, lacks green on the underparts, lack red coloration to the bill and have a squeaky call note. Female and immature White-eared Hummingbirds have stronger facial patterns (with bolder post-ocular line and blacker auriculars), more green on the throat and a different call. Magnificent Hummingbirds are larger, longer tailed, and longer and straighter billed (without red on the bill). Immatures of that species are more scaled below.

The amount of white on the tail, lack of blue-green on the throat, green sides of the breast and previous banding demonstrate the bird is an adult female.

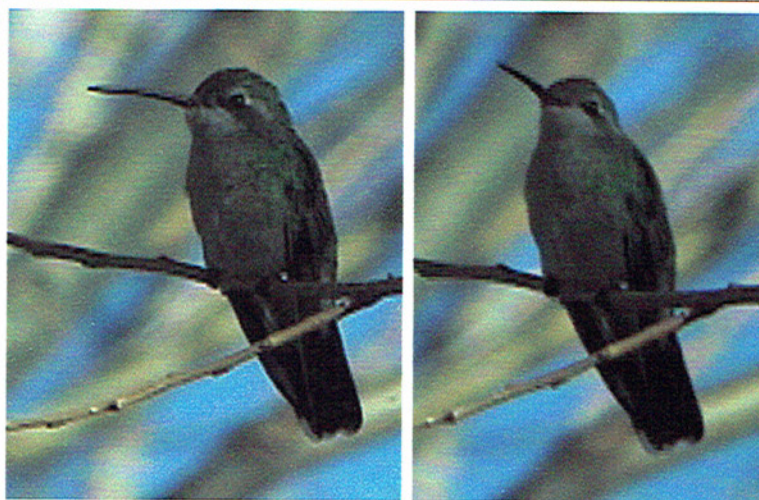


Figure 5 (video captures of bird in shade)

Broad-billed hummingbird

From: Ric Olson [drdo@worldnet.att.net]
 Sent: Thursday, November 28, 2002 7:33 PM
 To: Tony Luekering
 Subject: Broad-billed hummingbird

Tony:

Colorado Field Ornithologists Sight Record Form (Please print or type. Attach photographs and additional pages if necessary.) Each table cell will automatically enlarge as you type!

CBRC FILE #:

RESULTS:

Species: Broad-billed Hummingbird (Common Name) *Cynathus latirostris*
 (Scientific Name)

Date(s) of occurrence: Nov 15, 2002

Number of birds seen: one Sex: female Plumage: basic

Exact location: 576 34 road, Clifton

County: Mesa Nearest town: Clifton Elevation: unknown

Length of observation: approx 1 hour Time(s) of observation: 08:30 to 09:30

Other observers who saw the bird(s) with you: Norm Erthal

Other observers who independently saw the bird(s): MOB

Light conditions (quality; direction relative to bird(s) and observers position: sunny, sun to the right of observer, temps in the 30's and low 40" s.

Optical equipment used: Ziess 10x40, Kowa TSN4 scope 20x60 zoom

Distance to bird(s) (estimated, unless otherwise noted): 50 feet

Was (were) bird(s) photographed? yes If so, are you submitting photos? Yes who took the photograph(s)? Ric Olson

Describe the general and specific habitats in which the bird(s) occurred:

The bird was seen coming to feeder at a trailer house.

Describe the bird's (birds') behaviors, particularly behaviors that were used in supporting the identification, e.g., flying, feeding, habits: The bird was seen coming to feeder, resting on various tree branches.

DESCRIPTION -- This is the most important part of this report. Include in these details the overall size and shape of the bird, how you placed the bird in the general group that you did, and give as many plumage details as possible, even including those that you feel might not have relevance to the specific identification. Features to include are the color(s) and/or patterns of the head, eyes, bill, back, folded wings, open wings, tail, chin, throat, breast, sides, flanks, belly, vent, and legs. Also, please include, where possible, shape of the whole bird, of the wings - folded or open, of the bill, and of the tail. Please fill out this portion even if photos are accompanying your report. We welcome attachments of additional sheets of description, drawings, field sketches, or copies of field notes. This lone hummingbird was seen coming to feeder. The bird had a long hummingbird bill, with a wide base. The mandible was orangish in color at the basal 1/4, with a dark tip. The maxilla was dark the entire length. The bird's head had a greenish gray crown becoming a golden green on the nape and back. There was a white stripe above the back half of the dark eye that extended down the neck to the shoulder. The auricular patch was dark gray becoming almost white by the shoulders. The throat was a pale white, becoming gray on the breast, flanks and belly. The undertail coverts and vent area were a pale white. The wings were black and the tail had half golden green, half dark central rectrices. The outer 3 or 4 rectrices had a bluish color to the body of the feather and white tips. I never saw the legs well.

Describe the bird's (birds') call(s) and/or song(s), if noted: None heard.

SIMILAR SPECIES - This is another critical part of your report. Please discuss how you eliminated similar species from consideration: I have very little experience with this species. Given the bill color and the white eye stripe the only other similar species would be a female white-eared Hummingbird. A female white-eared should have a much bolder eye stripe, a greenish wash to the breast and the central rectrices would be all green.

Broad-billed hummingbird

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

Very limited, One or two females.

List books, guides, recordings, or other sources consulted and how this influenced your identification (during and after observation): Sibley, Guide to birds, 2000

This report was made from (check one) ☒ notes made during observation ☐ notes made after observation ☐ later from memory.

Date and time of written report: Nov, 28, 2002

Reporting observer: Ric Olson Signature:

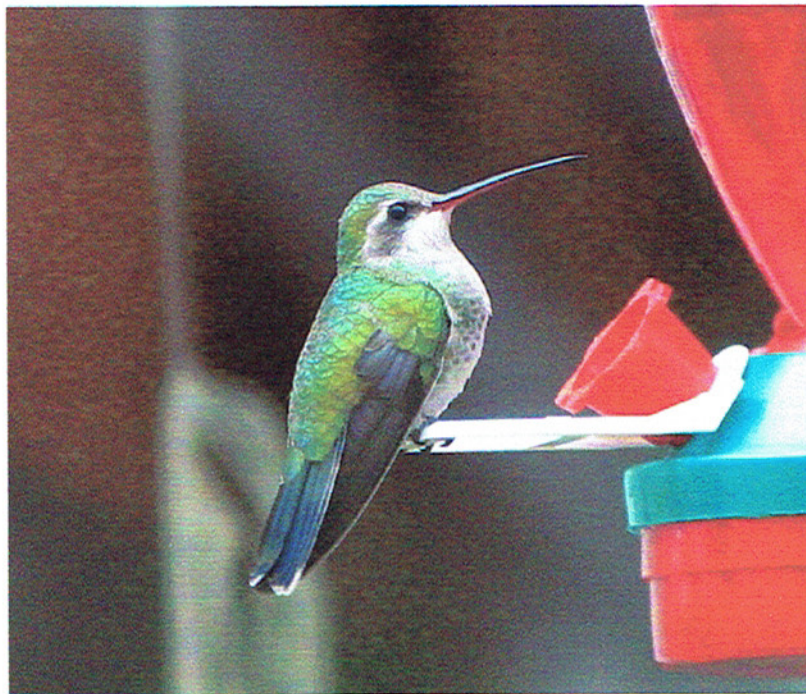
Reporting observer's address: 9450 N. Heather Dr., Castle Rock, Co 80108

City: State: Zip:

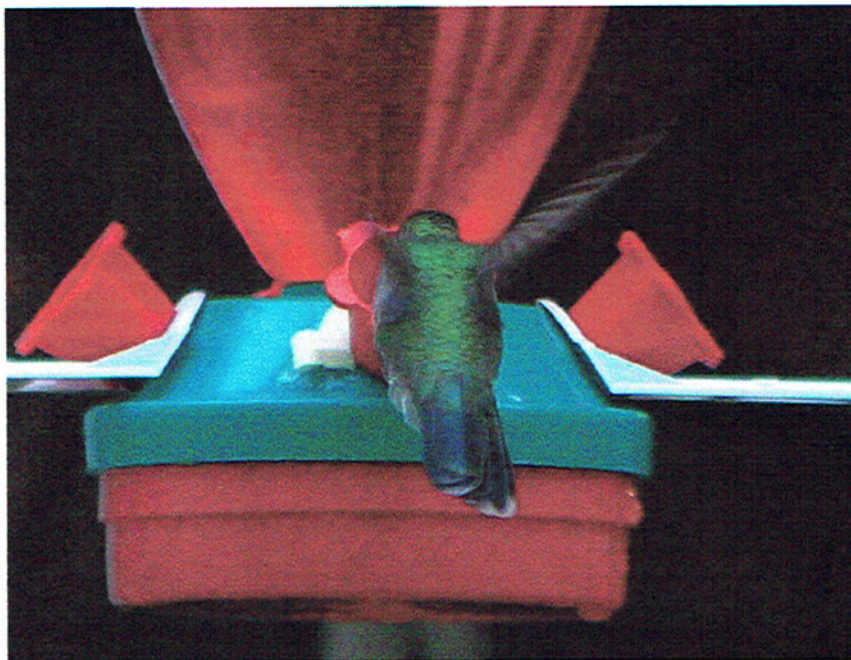
Send report to: Colorado Bird Records Committee Tony Leukering PO Box 660

Brighton, CO 80601

2002-100 Broad-billed Hummingbird



Broad-billed Hummingbird, 11/14/02, Clifton, Mesa County, Glenn Walbek



Broad-billed Hummingbird, 11/14/02, Clifton, Mesa County, Glenn Walbek

2002-100 Broad-billed Hummingbird



Broad-billed Hummingbird, 11/22/02, Clifton, Mesa County, Doug Faulkner



Broad-billed Hummingbird, November 2002, Clifton, Mesa County, Duane Nelson

CFO-ORC FILE # 2002-100

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD X UNUSUAL RECORD

Species: Broad-billed Hummingbird (*Cynanthus latirostris*)

Date: 21 November 2002

Number seen: one

Sex: female

Plumage: adult

Locality: private residence in Clifton

Elevation: about 4700'

Nearest town: Clifton

County: Mesa

Time observed: late morning

Duration of observation: a total of about 30 minutes

Description:

The photo that accompanies this report will undoubtedly be more useful than what I describe here, so my emphasis is on major key features and separation from other species. The bill was long and only so slightly decurved. Of note, however, is that the lower mandible was a dull red for about 1/3 distally, wherefore it faded into black. The upper mandible was entirely black. There are five regularly-occurring hummingbirds in North America with red bills (Broad-billed, White-eared, Violet-crowned, Berylline, and Buff-bellied - all of these would be first state records for Colorado). The hummingbird I saw had metallic green upperparts, a grayish-white supercilium that curved from the eye to the hindneck, a dark ear patch directly behind the eye, solidly gray underparts, dark brown wings, tail showed metallic bluish-green coloration and was tipped in white. There was also a metallic band on its right leg. So, of these features, Violet-crowned, Berylline and Buff-bellied are eliminated by the gray underparts (white in the former, green and buff in the latter). White-eared can be eliminated because this species has a shorter and straighter bill than Broad-billed. Also, adult female White-eared has obvious green spotting on the throat, chest, and sides.

Describe the bird's song and call, if given, including method of delivery (i.e. from perch, in flight, duration): I heard none.

What is your prior experience with this and similarly-appearing species? I have seen a total of about a dozen Broad-billeds in Louisiana and Arizona.

Light conditions: I don't recall.

Optical equipment used: Zeiss 7x42 binocular, Kowa scope 20-60x zoom

Distance, and how estimated: estimated closest distance at about 40 feet.

Other observers who saw the bird with you: Chris Wood

Other observers who saw the bird independently: Originally identified by Steve Bouricius in the fall of 2002 who discovered that the bird was already banded. Seen by untold numbers of observers.

If photographed, type of equipment and film: Digiscoped with Nikon 4500 through Chris's scope whatever that is).

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

a) at time of observation: none

b) after observation: Sibley and National Geographic for separation from other species

Reporting observer: Doug Faulkner **Signature:** 

Address: Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, 14500 Lark Bunting Lane, Brighton, CO 80603

Date report was written: This report was written on 4 Jan 2004 from notes, sketch, and photo taken at time of observation.