

VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF AN UNUSUAL RECORD

Accepted JR
3/23/74

1. Species: BOREAL OWL | Aegolius funereus
(Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name)
2. Number: 1
3. Location: west slope side of Rabbit Ears Pass, Routt Co., Colorado
4. Date(s): 15 June 1973 5. Time bird seen: Found dead (see specimen)
by Gerald R. Craig, Colo. Div. Wildl., Denver
6. Description of size, shape and color-pattern. (Describe in great detail all parts of the plumage including beak and feet coloration in addition to the diagnostic characteristics; however, include only what actually was seen in the field):
Specimen identification verified by Dr. R. Banks, U.S. Natl. Museum - Considered it an adult, probably a ♀ (Not yet assigned specimen number but will be retained in collections of the Dept. of Fishery and Wildlife Biology, Colorado State University, Ft. Collins, Colorado 80521 - R.A. Ryder, curator)
7. Description of voice, if heard: Was dead - killed by car less than week before found (probably ca. 10 June 1973)
8. Description of behavior: "
9. Habitat--general: Spruce-fir zone
specific: (No more details given by Craig)
10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated 6, 7 and 8 above; Explain:
—
11. Distance (how measured?): —
12. Optical equipment: —
13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and observer): —
14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species: —
15. What made you think this species was unusual or rare? Few records in Bailey & Niedrach, Collier
16. Other observers: None
17. Did others agree with your identification? Yes - Browning & Banks at Natl. Mus. Roger Boyd, Dept. of Zoology & Entomology, CSU, Ft. Collins, CO
18. Other observers who independently identified this bird: —
19. Books, illustrations and advice consulted and how did these influence this documentation: —
20. If bird was photographed, please attach pictures and describe equipment used:
Ronald A. Rydman
for Jerry Craig Street Address: 748 Eastdale Drive
Signature Date Prepared: 8 March 1974 City and State: Ft. Collins, CO 80521

(USE THE REVERSE, OR ADDITIONAL PAGES, IF NECESSARY)



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
BUREAU OF SPORT FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

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CFO-ORC File # 28-74-22

Accepted 3/23/74

Bird and Mammal Laboratories
National Museum of Natural History
Washington, D.C. 20560

27 February 1974

Ronald A. Ryder
Department of Fishery and Wildlife Biology
Colorado State University
Fort Collins, COLORADO 80521

Dear Dr. Ryder:

Dr. Banks has no doubt written you concerning the Horned Larks and the owl. I note, however, that you desire information on the age of the specimen. The specimen is an adult. We have few aged specimens and I cannot be sure if the bird is fully adult, but it is very likely at least two years old. Measurements of wing chord and tail compare favorably to those of female^s in Ridgway and in Earhart and Johnson, Condor 72: 253, 1970.

Enclosed is a list of your catalogue numbers of the 10% (26) Horned Larks as agreed for retention and deposit in the National Museum.

Thank you for the opportunity of seeing the specimen of Aegolius funereus. The specimen will be mailed to you this week.

Sincerely,

M. Ralph Browning

Encl.