

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

CFO-ORC FILE NO. 18-75-103
☒ ACCEPTED ☐ REJECTED 12/29/75

Species: Ruddy Turnstone

Arenaria interpres

(Vernacular Name)

(Scientific Name-use binomial)

Date(s): May 12, 1975 (May 10, 1975)

Time Bird Seen: about 9 AM(?) to _____

Locality: Julesburg (Jumbo) Reservoir

Nearest Town: Crook

County: Logan-Sedgwick

Other observers who independently identified this bird:

NAME

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE

Van Remsen

Steve Larson

Bill Lybarger

Optical Equipment: 7 X 50 binoculars

If photographed, type of equipment used: _____

Light Conditions: cloudy bright

Distance from bird (how measured): minimum estimated 30 feet

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

Describe the bird's overall behavior and demeanor:

Was sitting on a partly rocky, partly muddy shoreline, then when approached flew out low across the water, then circled back and landed on the shore not far from where it had been previously.

Describe in great detail the bird's size, overall shape, plumage and color-pattern. Include details on shape of bill, wings and tail. Give particular emphasis to the marks you used to identify the bird. Reference to its resemblance in field guide descriptions is not enough. Describe what you actually saw in the field:

A medium-sized, chunky shorebird, with short tail, short, black, slightly upturned bill. Legs bright yellow-orange. Back and wings mostly chestnut, with some black bars running down wings and on scapulars. Spread wing had white patch on shoulder and white stripe on primaries on upperside. Underside of wing not noticed. Head and underparts mostly white, but with black lines through eye, across cheek and a thick black bar covering much of the breast and then going down onto the sides, then turning and going across the scapulars. No note made of tail, rump white.

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

No calls.

Describe the habitat in which you observed this bird:

Shoreline, mostly muddy with some rocks of a large reservoir on plains a few miles north of South Platte River.

How were similarly appearing species eliminated?

No species even vaguely resembles this species in its breeding plumage.

Only species that comes close is Black Turnstone, but its plumage is mostly black and is not likely to be found in Colorado.

Prior experience with this and similarly appearing species:

Have observed Ruddy Turnstone, in both plumages on the coast of California and Texas. I have seen it once before in Colorado (Prewitt Res., September 26, 1970) in nonbreeding plumage. Have seen Black Turnstone in California.

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

Standard guides (Peterson and Robbins) checked afterward and they confirmed the identification.

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

PRINT NAME: Robert Andrews SIGNATURE: Robert Andrews DATE: Aug. 29, 1971
Street Address: 1390 So. Ivy Way Town and State: Denver, Colorado ZIP: 80224

Return to: JACK REDDALL - 4450 South Alton Street, Englewood, Colorado 80110

Species: RUDDY TURNSTONE

Arenaria interpres

(Vernacular Name)

(Scientific Name-use binomial)

Date(s): 5-11-1975

Time Bird Seen: 0830 to 0845

Locality: Jumbo River (Near Julesburg) West of Middle Dam

Nearest Town: Julesburg

County:

Other observers who independently identified this bird:

NAME

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE

Optical Equipment: Bushnell 10x50

If photographed, type of equipment used: N/A

Light Conditions: Good - Morning Sun

Distance from bird (how measured): 50 ft (Est)

Number of Birds Seen: 1 Sex: M/F Plumage: Breeding

Describe the bird's overall behavior and demeanor:

Feeding with other Shore birds along narrow beach

Describe in great detail the bird's size, overall shape, plumage and color-pattern. Include details on shape of bill, wings and tail. Give particular emphasis to the marks you used to identify the bird. Reference to its resemblance in field guide descriptions is not enough. Describe what you actually saw in the field:

Bird was noticeably larger than Baird's Sandpipers, somewhat stockier, good spring bird with Black face marking on white face, Ruddy Back and orange legs, upturned dark bill and light underparts. Stocky body, upturned bill and size marked it a turnstone or Surf bird, Back color and face and breast markings as the Ruddy Turnstone. Bird was assumed to be same bird seen 5-10-75 on Spring Count by Count party and thus was not carefully observed or noted beyond species.

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

No song or call heard

Describe the habitat in which you observed this bird:

Sandy beach on a freshwater lake near a dam.

How were similarly appearing species eliminated?

Neither the Black Turnstone nor the Surtbird have the color or pattern of the Ruddy Turnstone. Also the upturned bill separates the ~~Ruddy~~ Turnstones and Surtbirds from other shore birds

Prior experience with this and similarly appearing species:

Both The Ruddy Turnstone and Black Turnstone and Surtbirds were common on the Los Angeles Jettys in Fall and Spring where I started Birding. The Ruddy Turnstone and the Black Turnstone and Surtbirds are very familiar to me

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

Peterson's Western Guide. Used picture since no notes of this bird were taken on 5-14-75 as bird had been noted on 5-10-75 count by entire count party.

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

PRINT NAME: William A Lybarger SIGNATURE: William A Lybarger DATE: _____
Street Address: 2415 S. Memphis Way Town and State: Aurora Co ZIP: 80013

Return to: JACK REDDAIL - 1450 South Alton Street, Englewood, Colorado 80110