

CFO-ORC FILE # 19-95-28accepted (7-0)

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD

UNUSUAL RECORD

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

Species: RUDDY TURNSTONE
(Vernacular Name)ARENARIA INTERPRES
(Scientific Name)Date(s): MAY 25, 1995Number of birds seen: ONESex: SEXES ARE ALIKE Plumage: ALTERNATE (BREEDLocality: CHERAW LAKEElevation: (UNKNOWN)Nearest town: CHERAWCounty: OTEROTime(s) observed: BETWEEN 11:00 AM AND 11:30 AM (APPROXIMATE TIME SPENTDuration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): BETWEEN 5 TO 10 MINUTES

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

NONE

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

UNKNOWN

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

THE DAY WAS PARTLY CLOUDY AND THE SUN NEARLY OVERHEAD. I THOUGHT THE LIGHTING WAS EXCELLENT.Optical equipment used (e.g. power, types): KOWA TSN 4 SCOPE WITH 20 X 60 ZOOMDistance, and how measured: 60 TO 75 FEET. THIS IS A GUESSED ESTIMATE.If photographed, type of equipment and film: NONEWho else photographed the bird? UNKNOWNDescribe the bird's behavior (e.g. flying, feeding, or habits used in identifying): THE BIRD ONLY WALKED ALONG THE SHORELINE, RIGHT AT THE WATER'S EDGE. ALTHOUGH MAY HAVE BEEN FORAGING, IT DID NOT EXHIBIT SPECIFIC FEEDING BEHAVIOR. SEVERAL OTHER SHOREBIRDS WERE PRESENT AND THEY SPOOKED ONCE. THIS BIRD ONLY FLEW A SHORT DISTANCE AND CONTINUED ITS WALKING BEHAVIOR.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 observed in the field: THIS BIRD WAS LARGER THAN MANY OF THE OTHER SPECIES CLOSE BY - WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER, SANDERLING AND SNOWY PLOVER. IT WAS ALSO SMALLER THAN THE KILLDEER PRESENT. ITS OVERALL JIZZ SHAPE WAS CHUNKY, LOOKING OR STOCKY WITH VERY LITTLE NECK, THE

Description (continued): BILL A SLENDER WEDGE SHAPE, AND ITS LEGS SEEM SHORT AND HEAVIER LOOKING THAN THE OTHER BIRDS MENTIONED. THIS BIRD WAS VERY STRIKING IN ITS DISTINCTIVE BLACK, WHITE AND RUSTY COLORED PLUMMAGE. THE HEAD HAD A BOLD BLACK AND WHITE PATTERN - BLACK STREAKS ON A WHITE CROWN, BLACK STRIPE EXTENDING DOWN TO BLACK THROAT FROM EYE AND LOREAL AREA. ANOTHER BLACK STRIPE STARTED ALONG THE SIDE OF THE NAPE, ACROSS THE NECK TO BLACK THROAT. A HEAVIER, BOLDER BLACK STRIPE CAME FROM ITS BACK, ACROSS THE FRONT EDGE OF THE SCAPULARS, THEN DOWN ACROSS THE BREAST TO FORM A BIB. (CONTINUED ON SEPARATE SHEET)
Describe the bird's song and call, if given, including method of delivery, (i.e. from perch, in flight, duration): NO CALL WAS HEARD.

Describe the general and specific habitat in which you observed the bird: THIS BIRD STAYED RIGHT AT THE SHORELINE OF CHERAW LAKE, EXCEPT FOR ITS ONE FLIGHT.

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?

THERE IS NO OTHER SHOREBIRD SPECIES SO DISTINCTIVELY COLORED AND PATTERNED TO CONFUSE WITH THIS BIRD.

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

I HAVE SEEN SEVERAL RUDDY TURNSTONES, IN BOTH SPRING AND FALL MIGRATION IN MINNESOTA. IT CAN BE COMMON IN A FEW LOCALES. I HAVE ALSO SEEN OVERWINTERING BIRDS IN TEXAS.

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

- a) at time of observation: NO FIELD GUIDES WERE NECESSARY BECAUSE OF MY PREVIOUS EXPERIENCES OF SEEING THIS BIRD.
b) after observation: NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC FIELD GUIDE TO THE BIRDS OF NORTH AMERICA

This report was written from reports made during X, after observation X from memory X

Date and time report was written: JANUARY 20, 1996

Reporting observer: DREW SMITH

Signature: Andrew D. Smith

Address: 3606 WIDAEON WAY, EAGAN MN 55123

Return to:
Bill Prather
C.F.O. Official Records Committee
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DESCRIPTION , CONT.

QUITE A BIT OF THE BLACK CONCENTRATED ON THE FRONT OF THE BIRD. THE BILL, CHIN, THROAT AND BREAST WERE BLACK. THE BLACK BIB MENTIONED FORMED A DISTINCT BORDER SEPARATING THE CLEAN WHITE BELLY. THE LEGS AND FEET WERE RED-ORANGE IN COLOR. THE UPPER BACK WAS A RUST COLORED PATCH THAT FOLLOWED ALONG THE TOP EDGE OF THE BLACK SCAPULARS. BELOW THIS, THE COVERTS WERE A RUST COLOR. WHILE THE BIRD WAS WALKING, THE FOLDED PRIMARIES WERE BLACK. HOWEVER, IN FLIGHT THE WING HAD A LONG BROAD WHITE STRIPE EXTENDING THROUGH THE FLIGHT FEATHERS. ALSO IN FLIGHT, THE WHITE RUMP, BLACK UPPERTAIL COVERTS, AND WHITE TAIL WITH BROAD BLACK SUBTERMINAL BAND WERE BRIEFLY SEEN. IT IS WHEN IN FLIGHT THAT THE STRIKING THREE COLORED PATTERN OF THIS BIRD WAS BEST OBSERVED.