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accepted

September, 26, 1994

Official Records Committee
% Zoological Collections
Denver Museum of Natural History
2000 Colorado Blvd.
Denver, Colorado 8025

To whomever Concerned:

On September 14, 1994, during the "fall count" at Cherry Creek Reservoir, one juvenile Short-billed Dowitcher was observed at the south end by all participants. It was first spotted apx. 100 yds. away and at that distance it only appeared to us as being a dowitcher species. Overall the color tone was very buff which made us suspicious it might be a Short-billed. Due to terrain restrictions we were unable to get any closer. As we were leaving the dowitcher flew and landed about 20 yds. away. While in flight the dorsal "dowitcher" stripe was very apparent.

The mantle, scapular, tertials and wing coverts were very neat, small, and new appearing; precisely arranged with no evidence of any basic feathering. The unders were uniformly buff, no apparent white areas. If there was any streaking or spots on the unders it wasn't obvious to us. The tertials and wing coverts were buff fringed with the interior part of the feathers emarginated with buff colors. The center of these feathers were not solidly dark. We watched the dowitcher for about 10 minutes and during that time it did not make any vocalization. We speculated that this Short-billed might be of the "hendersoni" race based on the overall buff tones as well as the solidly buff unders.

Submitted by

Bob Righter

2358 So. Fillmore
Denver, Colorado 80210