

Accepted GR 12/9/73

VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF AN UNUSUAL RECORD

1. Species: Hepatic tanager | Piranga flava §
(Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name)
2. Number: 609a
3. Location: Mouth of east Fork of Parachute Creek, no. of Grand Valley, Colorado
4. Date(s): July 21, 1973
5. Time bird seen: 3 PM to 3:15 PM
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):
Male: Brick red, dull blackish patch extending from eye forward to upper mandible and backward to back of head, wings and back also dark, almost slate-like color. Bill large and black. Feet dark, grey to black.
Female: Dusky (greyish yellow above) yellow below, no wing bars on male or female. Bill and feet same as for male.
- As large as a Townsend's Solitaire but fuller bodied. The brick-red of this bird stands out as different from the reds of other songbirds and its call is very much different.
7. Description of voice, if heard: Sounds like "chuck" or "cluck", in fact it really sounded like a broody bantam hen.
8. Description of behavior: Male and female calling to each other and intermittently chasing each other through the upper branches of tall cottonwood trees.
9. Habitat--general: Mouth of a four-mile canyon, precipitous cliffs to no. and so. specific: Cottonwoods, Box elder, oaks, along East Fork Creek
10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated 6, 7 and 8 above; Explain:
Summer tanager
11. Distance (how measured?): 100ft. (estimate)
12. Optical equipment: 7x35 Bausch and Lomb binoculars
13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and observer):
Bright, mid-afternoon, no clouds, sun to west of birds
14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species:
None with this species, considerable with other tanagers
15. What made you think this species was unusual or rare? It's color and its voice
16. Other observers: Mrs. Virginia Norton (Observed another pair about same time about 12 miles down Parachute Creek.)
17. Did others agree with your identification? Yes
18. Other observers who independently identified this bird: None
19. Books, illustrations and advice consulted and how did these influence this documentation: Bailey and Neidrach's Birds of Colorado, Peterson's Field Guide to Western Birds, and Robbins et al, Birds of North America. Dr. William H. Behle University of Utah
20. If bird was photographed, please attach pictures and describe equipment used:
- Allen G. Smith Street Address: 540 South 1st East, Brigham City,
Signature
Date Prepared: August 18, 1973 City and State: Utah 84302

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