

4
APPENDIX IIDOCUMENTATION OF RARE BIRD SIGHTINGS
FOR
THE COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS' RECORDSSpecies: HEPATIC TANAGER; PIRANKA FLAVA
(Vernacular name) (Scientific name)

If you watch birds solely for your own enjoyment, a written description of your observations is unnecessary. But, if you have seen something unusual, and would like to share this with others, a written description is essential. Compilers of regional bird lists must insist that their records be scientifically sound; future bird students -- those studying occurrences 50 years from now -- must have a written record on which to depend. By providing the verifying written description, you are employing a basic rule of the scientific method.

We recognize that experienced field observers can provide important and reliable records, if supported by an adequate verifying description. Thus this request is an effort to perpetuate your record by obtaining concrete evidence which may be permanently preserved for examination by others in the future. This procedure is required for every extraordinary observation, irrespective of the observer.

TOTAL OBSERVATION TIME = 2 min. > 1 minDates (s): 8-10-78 Time Bird Seen: 1:30 pm to 1:45 pmLocality: 7mi South, 11mi West of KIM, MESA DE MAYA (LAS ANIMAS, CO)KIM, BACA CO. COLO. ELEV. 6,500'

Nearest town, county and state:

Optical equipment: 7x35 EDDIE BOWER BROWER

If photographed, please enclose copy. Equipment used: _____

Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: M Plumage: ADULT, BREEDINGLight conditions: FULL SUNDistance from bird, and how measured: 8-10 METERS EST.Describe the bird's overall behavior: PERCHED IN TALL ONE SEED JUNIPER.
NOT VERY ACTIVE. VERY SECRETIVE.Describe the habitat in which you observed the bird: MIXED SCRUB, ^{OAK} JUNIPER
AND PONDEROSA PINE GROUP.

Other observers who independently identified this bird (Please list name and address):

BETSY WEBB - ZOOLOGICAL COLLECTION CURATOR, DENVER MUSEUM
OF NATURAL HISTORY, DENVER, COLO. 80205 (CITY PARK)

APPENDIX II Continued

Describe in great detail the bird which you saw. Emphasize particularly the field marks used to identify the bird, but include a complete description of the bird. Include size, overall shape, plumage and color pattern; details on shape or size of bill, wings, and tail. (Reference to its resemblance to field guide descriptions is not enough). Describe what you actually saw in the field. BIRD WAS ABOUT 7" IN LENGTH, WAS TANAGER SHAPED AND HAD A THICK DARK BILL. THE BIRD WAS RED AND HAD DARK WINGS (NOT BLACK) AND ^{HAD} A DARK CHEEK PATCH. TAIL WAS NOT SEEN DURING OBSERVATION. BIRD WAS SEEN TWICE PERCHED FOR 10-15 SECONDS AT A TIME AND ONCE DURING FLIGHT (5-10 SEC). ~~THE~~ 10 MINUTES WAS SPENT LISTENING TO A CALL NOTE THAT THE BIRD MADE.

Describe the bird's calls or sounds, if heard; including method of delivery-- i.e., from perch, in flight, etc.: The bird called from a perch. The call was a 'cheep'. Heard bird make this call for two or three times, then the bird moved on. It then called again, 2 or 3 times.

List similar species and how you eliminated them:

Summer Tanager - This bird had a dark bill, not light, and the bird had a dark cheek patch. The call was looked up and the call corresponded with the call of a Hepatic Tanager.

Scarlet Tanager - Tail and wings were not black

Prior experience with this and similar species: Have seen several Hepatic Tanagers in Southern Arizona.

This report was written from notes made during ✓ after observation; from memory .

Name (print) : JUDD E. SUNDINE

Mailing address: 5325 GARLAND ARVADA COLO. 80002

Signature: Judd E. Sundine

Return Form To:

CFO Records Committee
c/o Curator - Dept. of Zoological Collections
Denver Museum of Natural History
City Park
Denver, CO 80205

DOCUMENTATION OF LATILONG STUDY CHANGES
FOR
THE COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS' RECORDS

Species: Hepatic Tanager; Piranga flava
(Common Name) (Scientific Name - If Known)

This information is solicited in order to supplement or correct data appearing in The Colorado Bird Distribution Latilong Study (1978). This study was developed from contributions by field ornithologists throughout the state, and will maintain its validity only through a continuation of such contributions.

Latilong: 27 Previous Status: - Recommended Status: b
Habitat Change: From to
Abundance Change: From to

BASIS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)

Locality studied (Nearest town & county): Mesa de Mayo , Kim, Las Animas Co.

Observations which support your recommendation (give dates and numbers of birds, and any other pertinent data): Male and female were observed foraging together, posturing and male attempting copulation on 24 May in ponderosa pine and juniper. After several minutes observation, the birds flew off. Female (20 min. later) was located in Habitat in which observed: juniper approx. 50 m. from first observation sight. This precise location is the same as reported for the sighting of a male by (over)

Pertinent behavioral observations:

Name (Print): Charles A. Chase III
Mailing Address: Denver Museum of Natural History, Denver 80205

Signature: Charles Chase III

Return Form To:

CFO Records Committee
c/o Curator - Dept. of Zoological Collections
Denver Museum of Natural History
City Park
Denver, CO 80205

(presumable the same pair)

J. Sundine and B. Webb in July 1978. This pair/of birds was again located on 13 July by J. Sundine, Steve Bissell, Chuck Wagner, and Dianne Osborne. The birds casual feeding for a long period (15-20 min) suggested that they had no active nest or living young at that time.

On 11 July, another adult male was observed for several minutes approx. 2 km. from the first site. This is believed to be a separate bird due to the large distance between the two locations. Other than a few call notes, this male did not act as if he were breeding or even associating with a female. This bird was sighted again 13 July in the same location by Judd Sundine, M. Moulton, Chuck Wagner and Dave Robinson.