

A

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD ☐UNUSUAL RECORD ☒

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

Species: Hepatic Tanager | Piranga flava
(Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name)Date(s): May 27, 1985Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: male Plumage: Same year roundLocality: Tobe Canyon Mesa de Maya Elevation: 6450Nearest town: Tobe County: Las AnimasTime(s) observed: 1 PMDuration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): about 5 minutesOther observers who saw the bird with you (give names, addresses, telephone numbers):
John Bregar 7675 E. Mercer Place, Denver 80237 741-3941Other observers who saw the bird independently (give names, addresses, telephone numbers):
NoneLight conditions (position of bird to light and shade, direction and strength of light):
Sunny - Sun at our backs - Lighting conditions quite good.Optical equipment used (e.g. power, types): Each of us had 7X binocularsDistance, and how measured: 100 yards est.If photographed, type of equipment and film: NoWho else photographed the bird? _____

Describe the bird's behavior (e.g. flying, feeding, or habits used in identifying):

Bird flew from tall pine to tall pine but perched in the open in each tree for a long period of time so that both of us could see it well.

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 observe in the field:

Large red tanager with no wing bars. I was struck by the fact that this bird did not appear to be brick-red like the ~~the~~ male Hepatic Tanager I saw just down the canyon on May 11, 1985. The color looked like the National Geographic illustration as did the male Hepatic Tanager I saw in SE Arizona on May 20, 19

(OVER)

Description (continued):

We could both see a large, dark bill and distinct dark ear patch. The wings were paler and darker than the red on the rest of the bird - but I did not notice the lighter color on the lower belly.

I am suspicious that this was not the same male that I saw on May 11, 1985; but perhaps the 5 PM light and greater distance on May 11 played tricks on me.

Describe the bird's song and call, if given, including method of delivery, (i.e. from perch, in flight, duration):

No sound

Describe the general and specific habitat in which you observed the bird:

Open tall pines on the sides of the canyon

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?

from Western Tanager - no wing bars - no yellow
from Scarlet Tanager } large, dark bill - pale wings - larger size
+ Summer Tanager }

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

In SE Arizona during prior week I saw both Summer Tanagers and Hepatic Tanagers. This was John Bregar's 2nd Hepatic Tanager

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

- a) at time of observation: John Bregar studied both of my books. the Golden guide and National Geographic in the field just before we saw the bird. - I was convinced I knew what I was looking for.
- b) after observation: Nothing further. We both compared ~~our~~ observations and field marks as we watched the bird.

This report was written from reports made during _____, after observation _____ from memory X
Date and time report was written: June 4, 1985

Reporting observer: L. W. Dan Bridges Signature: L. W. Dan Bridges

Address: 1925 S. Vaughn Way # 207 Aurora, CO. 80014

All reports will be maintained permanently at the address below:

Return to:

CURATOR, DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS
DENVER MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
CITY PARK
DENVER, CO 80205