

## 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): June 13, 1992 lower part of canyonNumber of birds seen: 2 or 3 Sex: Pair (male + female) Plumage: adultLocality: Tobe Canyon Black Mesa Single male which might have been the male I saw earlier  
(Mesa de Haya) 1 mile upstream - upper part of canyon Elevation: 6200' pair 6400' singleNearest town: Tobe County: Las AnimasTime(s) observed: 6:20 PM (pair) 8:20 PM (single male)Duration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): 7 min (pair) 3 min (single male)

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)

None

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

Pair (afternoon sun at my back) Single male (looking toward setting sun)Optical equipment used (e.g. power, types): 8x binocularsDistance, and how measured: 100 yards in both casesIf 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):

Flying and perching up to a minute in Ponderosa Pines.

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:

Between sparrow + robin size. Typical passerine shape.The male was primarily red all over, except for a brownish eye patch and brownish wings. The black bill was fairly heavy.The female was yellowish orange below with a slight touch of red under the chin which made me somewhat suspicious that the bird was a first-year male. The back and wings were yellowish brown.Neither bird had wing bars.



I made this trip to play Flammulated Owl  
hope after dark in the canyon. The results were negative.  
I don't think there are any. Flammulated Owl in ~~the~~  
Tobe Canyon on the north side of Black Mesa.

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

The male called softly occasionally. It was not the loud  
chuck note that I have heard from the male Hepatic Tanager  
I have seen in Tobe Canyon in prior years.

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

Tobe Canyon is a rocky canyon which is usually dry. This year it had pools  
of water + some flowing water from recent rains. The sides of the canyon are  
a steep cut into basalt (volcanic rock). The sides of the canyon are, a loose  
How did you eliminate similarly appearing species? mix of scrub oak, jack pine, and a  
few scattered Ponderosa Pines + occasional patches of aspen.

Summer Tanagers do not have brownish eyes  
patches, heavy bills, or so much brown in the  
wings. A male scarlet Tanager is smaller with black wings.

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

This is the 4th time I have been in Tobe Canyon.  
I have found Hepatic Tanagers each time.  
Apparently there are 1 or 2 nesting pairs.

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

a) at time of observation: To refresh my memory of what a Hepatic Tanager looks like.

b) after observation: <sup>after going in canyon</sup> Nabucco Geographic Birds of North America

This report was written from reports made during \_\_\_\_\_, after observation \_\_\_\_\_ from memory X  
Date and time report was written: June 19, 1992 (I forgot about writing up the report)

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  
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