

accepted JR 6/30/74

DOCUMENTATION OF UNUSUAL RECORD

SPECIES: Painted Bunting

1 bird

Location: Two Buttes Reservoir, Baca County, Colorado

Date: May 10, 1974. 8:00 a.m.

Description: (from notes made in field):

Bunting sized bird (compared with Lazuli bunting with which it was feeding) with bunting bill. It had a leaf green tail and back; gray or maybe blue on back of head; yellow under the tail, yellow belly and breast. No wing bars.

the Lazuli Bunting with which it fed was in some sort of immature male plumage, and we speculated that this bird was likewise an immature male Painted Bunting.

Voice not heard.

Birds fed leisurely in the shrubs, moving slowly from bush to bush. They were picking food (insects? seeds?) from the end of the branches of the bushes..

Habitat: chokecherry and ? (--small tree) habitat, creek bottom below the reservoir. Very thick, viney, shrubby habitat.

Seen at about 20-30 feet with 7x35 binocs, good overhead light.

Similar species: nothing else has this greenish cast to it. We compared with a Lazuli, which has wing bars; the Varied is brownish, as is the Indigo. No other finch comes close to (a) this color, and (b) this size.

And the beak makes it a fringillid.

Previous experience with this birds was in Texas, as well as a previous Colorado record ~~km~~ within 300 yards of the location of this bird.

Also seen by Paul Julian, Doug Stotz, Dave McCargo, Urling Cannon.

~~Also seen by Paul Julian, Doug Stotz, Dave McCargo, Urling Cannon.~~
Paul and Doug identified the bird.

Birds of N. Am. consulted during identification.



869 Milwaukee St, Denver 80206

Prepared from notes in field 5/13/74

accepted JR 6/30/74

VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD

1. Species: Painted Bunting Passerina Ciris 2. Number: _____
3. Location: Two Buttes Dam
4. Date(s): 10 May 1974 5. Time bird seen: 0815 to 0820

6. Description of size, shape and color-pattern (Describe in great detail all parts of the plumage, and beak and feet coloration, in addition, to the diagnostic characteristics, but include only what actually was seen in the field):

Conical horn-colored bill - was called bunting almost immediately. Bright green back, in some positions a bluish collar was detectable on hind neck. Yellow underparts all the way to tail. Lighter, almost grey, on chest and at bend of wing.

7. Description of voice, if heard: albeit
8. Description of behavior:
9. Habitat--general: feeding
— verdant hillside
specific: → checkerberry & other trees & shrubs
10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated 6, 7 and 8, explain:
was in company with Lazuli or Lazuli-Indigo hybrid. No other bunting has green back & no other bird has bluish hind-collar. Was probably male acquiring adult plumage. *
11. Distance (how measured?): 10-15 yards 12. Optical equipment: 7x35 binocs
13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and observer):
sky clear, sun to back
14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species:
female seen some years ago at same location
15. Other observers:
Doug Stutz, Hugh Kingery, Dave McCargo, Urling Cannon
16. Did the others agree with your identification?
yes
17. Other observers who independently identified this bird:
18. Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description:

Notes taken in field

Paul R. Jenkins
Signature

Address: 1269 Chinade Way

Date: 15 May 74

City, State: Boulder Colo

Use the reverse, or additional pages, if necessary.

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS *accepted GR 6/30/74*

File No. 56-74-36

VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF AN UNUSUAL RECORD

1. Species: Painted Bunting Passerina ciris 2. Number: 1
(Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name)
3. Location: .1 miles east of Two Buttes Reservoir, Baca County
4. Date(s): May 10, 1974 5. Time bird seen: 8:10 to 8:20
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):
size about equal to that of a Lazuli Bunting with it. The beak was a typical bunting beak in size and was grayish-black in color. The back and tail were bright green with a light blue wash on the nape. It had no wingbars. The underparts were all bright yellow except for the throat which a wash of grayish covered the yellow
7. Description of voice, if heard: none
8. Description of behavior: it remained lower in the chokecherry often coming into view however.
9. Habitat- General: deciduous woods
Specific: chokecherry hillside
10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated 6, 7 and 8 above; Explain: There are no North American species that appear as green and lack wing bars.
11. Distance (how measured?) 10-20 feet estimated
12. Optical Equipment: 7x35 Tasco binoculars
13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and observer): sky clear light on bird good sun, observer and bird formed about a 135° angle with the observer at the vertex.
14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species:
None, have only observed the male of the species previously.
15. What made you think this species was unusual or rare? Previous reading of Birds of Colorado
16. Other observers: Paul Julian, Hugh Kingery, Dave McCargo, Urling Cannon
17. Did others agree with your identification? Yes
18. Other observers who independently identified this bird: _____
19. Books, illustrations and advice consulted and how did these influence your documentation: Birds of North America, Robbins, et al. It did not affect the identification but was used only for confirmation
20. If bird was photographed, please attach pictures and describe equipment used: _____

Signature

Date Prepared: 5/16/74

Street Address: Rt. 2 Box 274-M

City and State: Evergreen, Colorado

Prepared from notes made during
the observation

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