

## COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD ☐UNUSUAL RECORD ☒

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

Species: PAINTED BUNTING | PASSERINA CIRIS  
(Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name)Date(s): SUNDAY MAY 10 & 1992Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: FEMALE Plumage: ADULTLocality: HALE PONDS, YUMA COUNTY Elevation: 4000'?Nearest town: IDAHLA County: YUMATime(s) observed: BETWEEN 9:45 AND 10 AMDuration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): 5 TIMES 10-15 SECONDS EACH TIME

Other observers who saw the bird with you (give names, addresses, telephone numbers):

BOBBIE ELLIOTT

Other observers who saw the bird independently (give names, addresses, telephone numbers)

BILL RINEZ PRATHER, STEVE DIXON

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

SUN AT MY BACK, PARTIAL CLOUD COVEROptical equipment used (e.g. power, types): 10x BINOCULARS

Distance, and how measured: \_\_\_\_\_

If photographed, type of equipment and film: \_\_\_\_\_

Who else photographed the bird? \_\_\_\_\_

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

FEEDING BELOW PICNIC TABLE ON GRASSES,FLEW INTO LOW WILLOW THICKETS WHEN FLUSHED.

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:

1 FIRST SAW THE BIRD FROM THE BACK - IT WAS A UNIFORM OLIVE-GREEN, SOMEWHAT BRIGHTER ON THE BACK AND SOMEWHAT DARKER ON THE WINGS. IT WAS SIMILAR IN SIZE TO THE MANY CHIPPING AND CLAY-COLORED SPARROWS THAT WERE CLOSE BY, AND SOMEWHAT SMALLER THAN THE FEW WHITE-CROWNED SPARROWS

description (continued):

THAT WERE ALSO AROUND. I THEN SAW THE BIRD FROM THE FRONT. THE HEAD WAS OLIVE-GREEN AND THE SMALL BILL LIGHT. THE REST OF THE UNDERPARTS WERE A DULL BROWNISH-YELLOWISH. I DID NOT GET A GOOD LOOK AT THE LEG COLOR. THE PLUMAGE WAS VERY PLAIN WITH NO HEAD MARKING, STRIPES, WING-BARS OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT. THE EYE WAS DARK.

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

THE BIRD DID NOT MAKE ANY SOUND.

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

OPEN AREAS WITH GRASS AND LOW WILLOW BUSHES AROUND HAZE PONDS.

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?

THE PLAIN OLIVE GREEN UPSIDE AND PLAIN BROWNISH-YELLOWISH LOWSIDE ARE UNIQUE TO FEMALE AND FIRST YEAR MALE PAINTED BUNTINGS.

THE FEEDING BEHAVIOR AND FLYING TO LOW BUSHES IS CONSISTENT WITH BUNTING BEHAVIOR.

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

I HAVE SEEN MANY INDIVIDUALS OF THIS SPECIES MOSTLY ON THE TEXAS COAST.

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

a) at time of observation: NONE

b) after observation: HAD LOOKED AT NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC GUIDE BEFORE FINDING THE BIRD.

This report was written from reports made during \_\_\_\_\_, after observation X from memory \_\_\_\_\_  
Date and time report was written: SUNDAY MAY 10th 1992 9am.

Reporting observer: PETER R. GENT Signature: Pete R. Gent

Address: 55 SOUTH 35th ST, BOULDER, CO 80303

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