

# Colorado Field Ornithologists Sight Record Form

(this is a two page report-click at the bottom for page 2)

CBRC FILE #: 2002-81  
RESULTS: A

rec'd 23 Sep 02

Print this page and then fill out. Attach photographs and additional pages if necessary.

Species (please include common and scientific names): Painted Bunting - Passerina ciris

Date(s) of Observation: July 23-26, 2002

Number of birds seen: one Sex: male Plumage: lime green, red, blue

Exact location: Birdfeeder, east side of house, 280-4th St, Placerville

County: San Miguel Nearest town: Placerville Elevation: 7100 ft

Length of observation: 15 min, 30 min Time(s) of observation: 8<sup>30</sup> am, 6-7<sup>00</sup> pm

Other observers who saw the bird(s) with you: Ian Bald, Eric Watkins

Other observers who independently saw the bird(s): NO

above & behind bird. Then in the afternoon, early evening light shone onto feeder from west. The observers were always W of feed.

Optical equipment used:

binoculars

Distance to bird(s) (estimated, unless otherwise noted):

20-30 ft

Was (were) bird(s) photographed? NO If so, are you submitting photos? -

Who took the photograph(s)? -

Describe the general and specific habitats in which the bird(s) occurred: Pinyon, Cedar, juniper scrub oak habitat, south facing slope

Describe the bird's (birds') behaviors, particularly behaviors that were used in supporting the identification, e.g., flying, feeding, habits: It flew in with Lazuli buntings & black headed grosbeaks. Did not stay when Stellar jays & juncos flew in. Primarily fed on the ground where bird seed had fallen. Feeder food was brand "Y'all Come Back" bird feed - a mixture of millet and sunflower seeds.

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DESCRIPTION -- This is the **most important** part of this report. Include in these details the overall size and shape of the bird, how you placed the bird in the general group that you did, and give as many plumage details as possible, even including those that you feel might not have relevance to the specific identification. Features to include are the color(s) and/or patterns of the head, eyes, bill, back, folded wings, open wings, tail, chin, throat, breast, sides, flanks, belly, vent, and legs. Also, please include, where possible, shape of the whole bird, of the wings - folded or open, of the bill, and of the tail. Please fill out this portion even if photos are accompanying your report. We welcome attachments of additional sheets of description, drawings, field sketches, or copies of field notes.

The male *Passerina ciris* was so obvious with its brilliant colors. Blue head, lime green on back, red belly and red ~~tail~~ rump. It size was similar to the Lazuli-*Passerina amoena* - which was also at the feeder. There is just ~~not~~ other bird of that size that can confuse one unless you are in Southern regions where tropical birds are more common.

Describe the bird's (birds') call(s) and/or song(s), if noted: "chips" off in the brush b/c coming.

SIMILAR SPECIES -- This is another critical part of your report. Please discuss how you eliminated similar species from consideration. Being that it was a male Painted Bunting, it was very easy to distinguish from the Lazuli Bunting. The color difference was very obvious w/ the green + red.

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species? I saw the painted bunting in TX back in 1984.

List books, guides, recordings, or other sources consulted and how this influenced your identification (during and after observation): Golden: A guide to field identification birds of N. Amer.

This report is from notes made from (check one) ☒ noted made during observation ☐ noted made after observation ☒ later from memory.

Date and time of written report: September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2002 - morning

Reporting observer: Jeanne Stewart

Signature:

Address: P.O. Box 451  
Placerville, CO 81430

Send report to: Colorado Birds Record Committee, Tony Leukering, PO Box 660, Brighton, CO 80601.

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