

CFO-RC FILE #: 2001-21
RESULTS: _____

rec'd 4/11/01

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS SIGHT RECORD FORM.

(Please print or type. Attach photographs, drawings, and additional pages if necessary).

Species: Carolina Wren *Thryothorus ludovicianus*
(Common Name) (Scientific Name)

Date(s) of observation: April 10, 2001.

Number of birds seen: one. Sex: singing male. Plumage: adult.

Exact location: Rock Canyon, below Pueblo Reservoir dam.

County: Pueblo. Nearest town: Pueblo.

Length of Observation: 10 minutes of hearing and seeing it.

Time(s) of Observation: about 11am to 1120am.

Other observers who saw the bird with you: none.

Other observers who independently saw the bird(s): unknown.

Light conditions (quality; direction relative to bird(s) position): Excellent, sun behind by back, while looking west at the bird.

Optical equipment used: 10 x 40 B & L binoculars and ears.

Distance from bird (s) (estimated unless otherwise noted): About 30 feet, 20 feet up in the tree.

Was the bird photographed: no. If so, have you submitted photos? n/a.
Who took the photographs? n/a.

Describe the general and specific habitat in which the bird(s) occurred: The bird was observed on the east side of the Arkansas River in a large riparian area below Pueblo Reservoir dam. The area on the side of the river I saw it on, is called Rock Canyon. The bird was singing on top of a 20 foot tree next to the Arkansas River.

Describe the bird's behavior (flying; feeding; habits; behaviors used in identifying the species or in supporting the identification): When I was on the west side of the Arkansas River at the Fish Hatchery Pond, west of the Valco Ponds parking lot in Pueblo, I started hearing the familiar loud song "tea-kettle tea-kettle tea-kettle" coming from the other side of the river, over in Rock Canyon. I thought, that sounds like a Carolina Wren. It sang about five times. I decided it would be wise to go look at the bird, so I quickly walked to the foot bridge, and made it over to Rock Canyon. I was about where I thought the bird was, when it started singing to my right. I spotted the bird in plain view singing on top of a 20 foot tree right next to the river. The bird sang a couple of more times and sat there for a few minutes and then dropped into cover.

Describe the bird in detail: This is the most important part of this report. Include overall size and shape, and how you placed the bird in the general group that you did. Give complete details of plumage, including bill, head, eyes, neck, chin, throat, breast, belly, undersides, sides, nape, back, wings, and tail. Give particular emphasis to marks you used to identify the (bird)s. Describe other details, such as color and shape of bill, head, neck, legs, eye, etc. That were important in making the identification. (Fill out this portion even if photographs are submitted: you may attach additional sheets, drawings, field sketches, or copy of field notes):

The bird was a small bird, about 5 1/2 inches. The bird was a wren, because of the small size and curved bill, and long tail. The bird had a long curved thin grayish bill. The upperparts (including the head, back, wings, and tail) were all rufous colored with a noticeable white eye line above each eye. The face looked grayish. The under parts were buffy orange. Most buffy under the tail, and less buffy on the throat. The legs looked pinkish. The eyes were dark. The tail was long and squared at the end, with darker bars on it. The identified the bird by the small size, wren shape, long thin bill, long tail, rufous upper parts, and buffy under parts and by the song.

Describe the bird's song and calls if heard: The bird gave a loud "tea-kettle tea-kettle tea-kettle" song about seven times.

Discuss similar species and how you eliminated them:

Bewick's Wren: Is overall drab, with out the rufous tones on upper parts and the buff tones on under parts. Also the song is different.

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

Carolina Wren: I have seen and heard them a few other times in Colorado and many times in Texas, e. Kansas, and Missouri.

List books, guides, recordings, or other sources consulted and how this influenced you identification (during and after observation): None needed.

This report was made from notes taken during _____,
or after X observation,
or later from memory ____.

Reporting observer: Brandon K. Percival

. Signature: *Brandon K. Percival*

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