

CFO-RC FILE #: 2001-22
RESULTS: _____

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 12, 2001.

Number of birds seen: one.

Sex: singing male.

Plumage: adult.

Exact location: Along the south side of the Arkansas River, east of Reservoir Drive, below Bob Steele's house in Pueblo. This area is east of Pueblo City Park.

County: Pueblo.

Nearest town: Pueblo.

Length of Observation: 2 minutes.

Time(s) of Observation: about 1145am.

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): Sunny, though he was mostly in the shade, sun above me, bird was in the shade south of the observer and above the observer on the hillside.

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

Distance from bird (s) (estimated unless otherwise noted): About 15 feet up in the bushes on the hillside.

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 in some dense bushes along a hill side, close to the Arkansas River on the south side of the river. This area has cottonwoods and other big trees as well.

Describe the bird's behavior (flying; feeding; habits; behaviors used in identifying the species or in supporting the identification):
When I was on the south side of the Arkansas River, walking east from Reservoir Dr. toward Bob Steele's yard, I started to hear a wren like chattering noise. I thought, well it doesn't sound like a Bewick's Wren. I then thought, maybe it is a Marsh Wren, though the habitat wasn't really good for that (no marsh up on the hillside). Then, I hear the loud ringing "tea-kettle tea-kettle tea-kettle" song, coming from above me on the hillside, where I was hearing the wren like chattering noise. I quickly looked through the binoculars to some dense bushes and spotted the wren. The bird sang a couple of more times and then it moved and I quit looking for it.

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 song bird, about 5 1/2 inches. The bird was a wren, because of the small size and long curved bill, and long tail. The bird had a long curved bill, I couldn't quite see the color in the shade. The upperparts (including the head, back, wings, and tail) were all rufous colored with a noticeable thick 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 weren't looked at. The eyes looked dark. The tail was long and squared at the end. I 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 first gave a wren like chatter and then gave a loud ringing "tea-kettle tea-kettle tea-kettle" song about three times.

Discuss similar species and how you eliminated them:

Bewick's Wren: This species is overall more drab, with out the rufous tones on upper parts and the buffy tones on under parts. Also the song is different, more like a Song Sparrow.

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, including one about seven miles west of this location on 4/10/2001 (which could have been the same bird) and many times in Texas, as well as e. Kansas, and Missouri.

Bewick's Wren: I have seen many in Colorado and other areas. They are resident in Pueblo along the Arkansas River, so I see and hear them quite often.

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 ☒ observation,
or later from memory _____.

Reporting observer: Brandon K. Percival

. Signature: *Brandon K. Percival*

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