

## Colorado Field Ornithologists Sight Record Form

(This is a two-page report. Please print or type. Attach photographs and additional pages if necessary.)

***Each table cell will automatically enlarge as you type!***

CFO-RC FILE X: **2001-172**

### RESULTS:

Species:(Common Name): **RUDDY TURNSTONE**

(Scientific Name) ***Arenaria interpres***

Date(s) of occurrence: **September 20, 2001**

Number of birds seen: **One**

Sex: **Unknown**

Plumage: **Mostly alternate**

Exact Location: **Southeast shore of Standley Lake**

County: **Jefferson**

Nearest town: **Arvada/Westminster**

Elevation: **5500 feet msl**

Length of observation: **Roughly five minutes**

Time(s) of observation: **7:45 AM MDST**

Other observers who saw the bird(s) with you: **None**

Other Observers who independently saw the bird(s): **None known**

Light Conditions (quality; direction relative to bird(s); position: **Excellent. Morning sun to east while facing west towards bird.**

Optical equipment used: **8X40 Swift Bins, 32X Spotting Scope**

Distance from bird(s) (estimated unless otherwise noted): **Approximately 50 yards**

Was bird(s) photographed? **Yes, video**

If so, have you submitted photos? **No, quality was too poor to identify the subject bird**

Who took the photographs? **Myself**

Describe the general and specific habitat in which the bird(s) occurred: **Exposed shoreline of open water lake.**

Describe the bird's behavior (flying, feeding, habits, behaviors used in identifying the Species or in supporting the identification):

**Actively foraged on lacustrine shoreline substrate.**

Describe the bird in detail. This is the most important part of this report. Include the overall size and shape and how you placed the bird in the general group that you did. Give complete details of plumage, including head, throat, undersides, nape, back, wings and tail. Give particular emphasis to marks you used to identify the bird(s). Describe other important details, such as color and shape of bill, 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 field notes):

**While conducting a daily census of all birds at Standley Lake, I observed an alternate-plumaged (for the most part) Ruddy Turnstone along the southeastern shore of the lake. The bird was observed actively foraging along the water's edge by itself, though some Killdeer were present nearby. The turnstone was slightly smaller in size (both length and height) than nearby Killdeer but was stockier and squattier, with deeper breast and shorter neck. It was very pastel patterned with white, rusty, and black. The head was mostly white except for some dark, grayish streaking on the crown and a black crescent extending ventrally from the forehead through the eye. Another black mark extended from the lower portion of the black eye crescent dorsally to the hindneck. These black facial marks were joined with a larger black pattern on the upper breast. This black upper breast pattern was deeper along the breast and narrowed as it extended dorsally to the bend of the wing and mantle. The upper parts were mainly rusty except for a black, horizontal wedge that traversed the upper coverts. There was also some dark edging to some primaries and secondaries. The primary tips were black. The remainder of the breast and vent were white. The bill was black, short, and slightly upturned. The legs were noticeably reddish-orange.**

Describe bird's call or song: **None heard**

Discuss similar species and how you eliminated them: **The short, fat, dumpy appearance, short, slightly upturned bill, orange legs, and pastel featheration of rusty, white, and black eliminates all other shorebirds. Black Turnstone, though having a similar build to Ruddy Turnstone, is quite different in plumage, being mostly blackish with dark yellowish legs.**

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species? Very extensive. **Have observed countless others in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan, Illinois, Louisiana, Alabama, Florida, Texas, California, the East Coast, and Canada.**

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

This report is from notes made during or after **XX** observation or later from memory

Date of written report: **4/23/02**

Reporting observer: **Larry Semo**

Signature:



Reporting Observer's Address: **9054 Dover Street**

City: **Westminster**

State: **Colorado**

Zip: **80021**