

CFO-ORC FILE # 2003-170

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

Don't Review

NEW STATE RECORD _____ UNUSUAL RECORD X

Species: Ruddy Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*)

Date: 29 August 2003

Number seen: one

Sex: unknown

Plumage: juvenal

Locality: SE corner of Barr Lake

Elevation: ~5,000 feet

Nearest town: Brighton

County: Adams

Time observed: mid-afternoon around 3 PM

Duration of observation: several minutes

Description: Squat shorebird, bulkier and larger than nearby Baird's Sandpipers (*Calidris bairdii*) with bright orange legs and black "bib." The distance and heat shimmer prevented me from seeing great detail on this bird, but I was able to get some fuzzy photos for documentation purposes. The bird's most distinguishing features were the bright orange legs, black "bib" that was split in the middle with an inverted "v" (rising from the white belly) giving the apparent shape of an upside down heart (also good for aging it as a juvenile), mottled brown upperparts, and very short dark bill. The bird foraged on the sand a few feet from the water, but spent most of its time standing at the end of small peninsula.

Describe the bird's song and call, if given, including method of delivery (i.e. from perch, in flight, duration): none heard

What is your prior experience with this and similarly-appearing species? I have seen hundreds of this species along the U.S. coasts.

Light conditions: breezy and partly cloudy with the sun high and to my left.

Optical equipment used: Kowa 20x60 scope

Distance, and how estimated: closest at about 100 meters, but photos taken at about 120 meters

Other observers who saw the bird with you: Gene Rutherford, Ira Sanders, Tony Leukering, Glenn Walbek and a couple others whose names I don't remember

Other observers who saw the bird independently: Bob and LeAnn Brown (initial observers on same date)

If photographed, type of equipment and film: Coolpix 4500 digital through scope

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

a) at time of observation: none

b) after observation: none

Reporting observer: Doug Faulkner

Signature:

Doug Faulkner

Address: Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, 14500 Lark Bunting Lane, Brighton, CO 80603

Date report was written: 30 August 2003 from memory.