

APPENDIX IIDOCUMENTATION OF RARE BIRD SIGHTINGS
FOR
THE COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS' RECORDS

A

Species: Winter Wren ; Troglodytes troglodytes
(Vernacular name) (Scientific name)

If you watch birds solely for your own enjoyment, a written description of your observations is unnecessary. But, if you have seen something unusual, and would like to share this with others, a written description is essential. Compilers of regional bird lists must insist that their records be scientifically sound; future bird students -- those studying occurrences 50 years from now -- must have a written record on which to depend. By providing the verifying written description, you are employing a basic rule of the scientific method.

We recognize that experienced field observers can provide important and reliable records, if supported by an adequate verifying description. Thus this request is an effort to perpetuate your record by obtaining concrete evidence which may be permanently preserved for examination by others in the future. This procedure is required for every extraordinary observation, irrespective of the observer.

Dates (s): 28 February 1984 Time Bird Seen: 8:40 am to 8:50 am

Locality : Bridge at Uncompahgre R. at entrance to Billy Creek on Hwy 550.
Colona, Ouray County, Colorado
Nearest town, county and state:

Optical equipment: Nikon 9 x 30 binoculars.

If photographed, please enclose copy. Equipment used: _____

Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: _____ Plumage: adult

Light conditions: Bright sun; both at back and in front of me, but bird was usually in shade of bank.

Distance from bird, and how measured: 12-30 feet; paced off at 12 feet.

Describe the bird's overall behavior: Bird responded to the first note of a Pygmy Owl call by flying up from under bridge and hiding in thick tangles along stream edge. After that showed no interest in call but did respond to pishing. Very secretive; stayed in tangles; hard to see

Describe the habitat in which you observed the bird: On bank of Uncompahgre River about 6200' elev. Stayed in thick tangles and brush right along river; hid deep in brambles or flew up under undercut stream bank that was overgrown. Stayed deep in heaviest growth, could be coaxed to

Other observers who independently identified this bird (Please list name and address):

APPENDIX 1I Continued

Describe in great detail the bird which you saw. Emphasize particularly the field marks used to identify the bird, but include a complete description of the bird. Include size, overall shape, plumage and color pattern; details on shape or size of bill, wings, and tail. (Reference to its resemblance to field guide descriptions is not enough). Describe what you actually saw in the field. Tiny wren, about 5 3/4" long. Seemed smaller than House Wren mainly because tail was very stubby, probably no longer than 1".

In flight this was most apparent when bird appeared almost tail-less. Overall the bird was dark and slightly streaky. Above it was a fairly even dark brown with a slight buffy tone. Underneath it was lighter buffy-brown. Superciliary stripe was light buff against the darker face. Flanks were extensively and finely barred with dark gray-brown. Edge of folded wing and tail finely barred with black. Bill medium-long, slightly down-curved and dark colored; eyes dark; legs not noted. Tail held cocked-up. Flight is low, very quick and direct.

Describe the bird's calls or sounds, if heard; including method of delivery-- i.e., from perch, in flight, etc.: Call note heard twice, once when first flushed and another time when disturbed; was a sharp, loud 'chip' note.

List similar species and how you eliminated them: Told from sparrows by fairly long, slender down-curved, not conical, bill. From pipits by short cocked striped tail; not long slender and white-edged. Canyon and Rock Wrens have long tails and lack barred flanks. Marsh Wren has black and white back, no barring on flanks, whiter underneath. Bewicks Wren is larger, grayer, unbarred on flanks. House Wren lacks stubby tail (as do all the other wrens), lacks heavily barred flanks, pale super-ciliary line.

Prior experience with this and similar species: One bird seen and heard singing along Left Hand Creek near Boulder in early Jan. 1974. Several seen in migration in fall 1978 in N. Illinois. Two seen Feb. 24 1983 at Muir St. Park California. I have seen all other wren species.

This report was written from notes made during x after observation; from memory .

Name (print) : Mark Janos
860 Sharpe Circle
Mailing address: Delta, Colorado 81416

Signature: Mark Janos

Return Form To:

CFO Records Committee
c/o Curator--Zoological Collections
Denver Museum of Natural History
City Park
Denver, CO 80205

APPENDIX I

DOCUMENTATION OF LATILONG STUDY CHANGES

Species: Winter Wren; Troglodytes troglodytes
(common name) (scientific name)

This information is solicited in order to supplement or correct data appearing in The Colorado Distribution Latilong Studies (1982). This study was developed from contributions by workers throughout the state, and will maintain its validity through a continuation of such contributions.

Latilong Quad #(s): 16

Status (Fill in appropriate recommended changes, see Status Codes):

W

Habitats in which found (See Habitat Codes):

T	AT	Lm	SF	LP	Bc	PP	DF	PJ	SaRb	DS	Sa	Sc	MM	SgP	CG	SgSD	MXP
TgP	SgM	SS	MmP	AS	RpL	RpT	RpH	MS	W/OG	Ri	L	Ag	Cr	U	O (specify)		

Abundance (check appropriate recommended change(s):

_____ Abundant _____ Common _____ Fairly Common _____ Unusual
_____ X Rare _____ Undetermined _____ Irregular

Basis for Recommendation

Locality studied (nearest town & county): "Eldridge", Billy Creek, Ouray County

If this is a new quad record explain your justification for the status given above: One bird seen along the brushy edge of the Uncompahgre River on 28 February 1984. Tiny, stub-tailed dark-brown wren with striped flanks and tail. Very secretive.

Date of sighting 28 February 1984

Number of animals 1

Behavioral Observations Secretive and difficult to flush or see. Flew once for a short distance. Responded to "pishing" and to Pygmy Owl call.

Name (print): Mark Janos

Mailing Address 860 Sharpe Circle
Delta, Colorado 81416

CFO Records Committee
c/o Curator-Zoological Collections
Denver Museum of Natural History
City Park
Denver, CO 80216

***documentation enclosed

Signature Mark Janos *Mark Janos*