

42-96-53

rec'd 9-17-96

DOCUMENTATION OF RARE BIRD SIGHTINGS
FOR
THE COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS' RECORDS

Accepted 6-1
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SPECIES: WINTER WREN (Vernacular Name)
SPECIES: TROGLODYTES troglodytes (Scientific Name)

DATE(S): 8-21-96
TIME BIRD WAS SEEN: 6:15 A.M. to 6:25 P.M.

LOCATION AND HABITAT: CONEJOS COUNTY, ROAD Y HEADED WEST TOWARDS
SANFORD @ 1/2 mile from ROAD 22.
WILLOW THICKETS AT THE SIDE OF ROAD Y. IRRIGATED PASTURE
TO THE NORTH + MARSH LIKE TO THE SOUTH WITH RIPARIAN AREA NEAR BY.
W/ COTON WOODS + OTHER TREES + SHRUBS FURTHER SOUTH.

Nearest town, county and state: SANFORD, CONEJOS COUNTY, COLORADO

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT: "HUMAN EYES" - BAUSCH LOMB 10x40 BINOCULARS
AT ONE POINT TOO CLOSE FOR BINOC'S!!

PHOTOGRAPHED: Yes ☐ No ☒ If yes, Equipment used: _____

PHOTOGRAPH ENCLOSED: Yes ☐ No ☒

NUMBER OF BIRDS SEEN: 1 SEX: ? PLUMAGE: DO WINTER WRENS HAVE "WINTER" PLUMAGE


DISTANCE FROM BIRD and HOW MEASURED: 10' TO 12' - EDUCATED GUESS
WE WERE IN THE CAR + USED IT AS A BLIND.

LIGHT CONDITIONS: EXCELLENT

WIND CONDITIONS AND WEATHER CONDITIONS: FAIR - NO CLOUDS - LIGHT BREEZE TO E!

OTHER OBSERVERS WHO IDENTIFIED THIS BIRD: (Name and address)

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2823 5TH AVE
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DESCRIBE THE BIRD'S OVERALL BEHAVIOR: Bob-Bob-Bobbin' AROUND  which was
the FIRST SIGN THIS WAS NO HOUSE WREN! CAME UP FROM LOWER
BRUSH AND SAT ON TOP OF CEDAR FENCE POST THAT CAME UP THROUGH
THE WILLOWS. The bird must have thought he/she was hidden but it was in
FULL VIEW Bobbing Action. Tucked 2 or 3 times in Act. for all field marks AND

DESCRIBE THE SPECIFIC HABITAT(S) IN WHICH THE BIRD WAS OBSERVED:
THICK BRUSH AT FENCE LINE - NEAR IRRIGATED (WET) PASTURE
WILLOWS ALONG FENCE ROW. THIS IS THE PIKE STOCKADE ROAD AREA
+ MCINTYRE SPRINGS. IT IS NEAR THE CONFLUENCE OF THE CONEJOS + RIO GRANDE
RIVERS. (GOD KNOWS WHAT ELSE A PERSON COULD FIND IN THIS
AREA!!)

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. DETAIL: of bill (shape and size), wings, tail and
undertail coverts (if seen). (REFERENCE TO ITS RESEMBLANCE TO FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS IS
NOT ENOUGH). DESCRIBE WHAT YOU ACTUALLY SAW IN THE FIELD DURING YOUR
OBSERVATION.

SMALL WREN WITH Bobbing Actions NOT SEEN IN HOUSE, BOWICKS
MARSH OR CAROLINA WRENS. Buffy eye brow IF YOU REALLY LOOKED HARD!
WAVEY UNDER TAIL COVERTS + Belly darker than breast THAT WAS TAN TO Deep Bu
LOOKED LIKE IT HAD LOST ITS TAIL! VERY SHORT TAIL, VERY SMALL WREN.
HIS "SCOLD" WAS NOT HOUSE WREN LIKE BUT 2 DISTINCT TICK Ticks
(MUCH LOUDER THAN THE CALL ON MY TAPES)

IF HEARD, DESCRIBE THE BIRD'S CALLS OR SOUNDS, INCLUDING THE METHOD OF DELIVERY i.e. from a perch, in flight, deep within shrub, etc.:

NO SONG - BUT THE CALL WAS A DISTINCTIVE low 2
TICK-TICK CALL.

LIST SIMILAR SPECIES AND STATE HOW THEY WERE ELIMINATED:

House Wren - This bird was smaller w/ much shorter
TAIL. THE UNDER TAIL COVERTS WERE TAN w/ WAVEY BARRING
IT HAD A BUFFY SHORT EYE-BROW NOT EXTENDED TO NAPE AND NOT
DISTINCTIVE ENOUGH FOR A BELWICK'S WREN. This bird's TAIL
WAS NONE OTHER THAN A WINTER WREN TAIL. Bill very thin
& slightly decurved. Barring on underside much DARKER &
more DISTINCTIVE THAN ALL OTHER WRENS.
PLUS THE TICK TICK CALL ELIMINATED OTHER "SCOLDING" of other WRENS

PRIOR EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND SIMILAR SPECIES: SPENT A WEEK WITH
WINTER WRENS AT HOG ISLAND MAINE AT A
marine-ecology workshop IN AN AUDUBON Camp. SEEN &
HEARD EVERY DAY.

THIS REPORT WAS WRITTEN FROM NOTES MADE DURING X AFTER X
OBSERVATION; FROM MEMORY FROM FIELD NOTES + GOLDEN, PETERSON + STOKES

FIELD
GUIDE

SUBMITTED BY: NAME (print): PEARLE SANDSTROM-SMITH

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SIGNATURE:

Pearle Sandstrom-Smith

Copy sent to CPO Records Chair Mark Jones