

6-1 (A)

From: Will Russell <wings@wingsbirds.com>  
 To: flammowl@juno.com  
 Date: Thu, 06 Jul 2000 16:47:22 -0700  
 Subject: winter wren  
 Following is my short write-up on the Winter Wren.

Rcd 7/6/00 wpl

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**Winter Wren      July 1, 2000**      Fall River Road, Rocky Mountain National  
 Park, Larimer County.

While conducting a hike down the Fall River road (for the ABA Convention), I heard a Winter Wren. It was located about four fifths of the way down (between the Alpine Visitor Center and the upper Endovalley picnic area) at a point where the road was on the same level as the river and about 100 feet removed from it. The wren sang perhaps six songs, complete but in a slightly subdued voice, from on or near the ground at some point perhaps halfway between the road and the river. The habitat was dense spruce-fir with a fairly well-developed understory. At the time I wasn't aware of the precise status of the bird; I knew they had to be scarce as I hadn't seen them 10 years previous when I spent quite a lot of time along the Fall River road during the previous Ft. Collins-based ABA Convention but I had no idea there were no confirmed summer records for the state.

I didn't search for the bird as I had a large group none of whom seemed the slightest bit interested in looking for it although they did listen to the song. The vocalizations were typical of Winter Wren in every respect except the volume. Each was a continuous high frequency musical trill rising and falling in pitch with numerous short monotonic bouts. Each song lasted three to five seconds. There were no calls.

I know the song of Winter Wren well, having lived with them during my 15 years in Maine. The song I heard was typical of the song type of eastern Winter Wren rather than of birds along the California coast being slower paced and, I feel, more musical. I don't know what the songs of (the few?) birds from the mountain west sound like.

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