

Species: Fox Sparrow Passerella iliaca
(Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name-use binomial)

Date(s): Dec 28, 1974 Time Bird Seen: 3:30 pm to 3:45 pm

Locality: Colorado City - Taylor Park below Lake Beckwith Dam

Nearest Town: Colorado City County: Pueblo

Other observers who identified this bird:

NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
<u>Carolyn C. Simpson</u>	<u>247 Melrose Pueblo</u>	<u>543-4466</u>
<u>David Paliberte</u>	<u>Cola Springs</u>	

Optical Equipment: 7x35 binoculars

Light Conditions: clear, snow cover

Distance from Bird (how measured): estimated 75 to 100 feet

Number of Birds Seen: 1 Sex: unknown Plumage: adult

Overall Appearance and Size: large sparrow dark on back streaked on sides, twittered behavior

Detailed Description (describe only what was actually observed in the field):

Bill (shape and color): dark

Legs (shape and color): dark

Crown and Forehead: gray to brownish Eye (color): red

Nape: gray Face: 2 distinct stripes Throat: white with red

Breast and Sides: heavily streaked - large center spot

Belly and Flanks: heavily streaked

Undertail Coverts: not seen

Back: gray

Wings: gray

Underwings: not seen

Rump: gray to brownish Uppertail Coverts: gray to brown

Upper Side of Tail: gray to brown

Under Side of Tail: dark

Shape of Tail: large, long, sparrow shaped - distinctly larger than song

Voice: not heard

Behavior: was digging in leaves and undergrowth in scrub oak, and shrubs on east side slope from marsh

Habitat: wooded & shrubby scrub oak hillside in foothills

Prior Experience with this Species: only one or two seen in Colo before

but I became familiar with it in California in

marsh area where I was able to study several at

close range.

How Were Similarly Appearing Species Eliminated? As far as I am concerned

the only other species it could be confused with

would be song sparrow in winter since lawbees are

essentially masked with no breast streaking, one the

interesting, the face pattern was like that in the field

gender of the bird was red race but the bird was dark

more gray than brown - behavior was much different than song

sparrow - it would not fly up, but stayed near ground and on ground

This Report was written from: Notes made during after X observation; Memory 1

Signed: Dave G. Hughes Street Address: 17 Solar Drive

Date Prepared: Dec 29, 1974 Town and State: Pueblo, Colorado ZIP: 81001