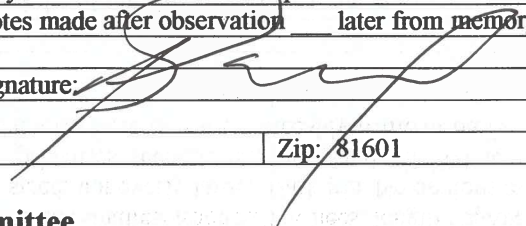


7-0 (A) 2004-14  
rec'd 4/6/04

**Colorado Field Ornithologists Sight Record Form**  
(Please print or type. Attach photographs and additional pages if necessary.)

**Each table cell will automatically enlarge as you type!**

CBRC FILE #:		
RESULTS:		
Species: "Slate-colored" Fox Sparrow		Passerella iliaca schistacea schistacea
Date(s) of occurrence: Nov. 27, 2003 – Apr 2, 2004, the observation on 3/23 was in excellent light and for over thirty seconds.		
Number of birds seen: 1	Sex: n/a	Plumage: Adult/basic
Exact location: Feeders at 66 Casa Del Monte Ct., Glenwood Springs (No Name)		
County: Garfield	Nearest town: Glenwood Springs	Elevation: 5842
Length of observation: Longest has been approx 5 minutes		Time(s) of observation: 6:30 AM – 4:00 PM
Other observers who saw the bird(s) with you: Linda Vidal, Laurel Williams, Dick Filby		
Other observers who independently saw the bird(s): None		
Light conditions: Morning light has been best for observing this bird. Sun shines on the feeding area which is southwest from our window. The view is generally down on the bird but the bird has been seen well and in excellent light from the front, back, and sides.		
Optical equipment used: Pentax 10x42 DCF WP Binocs, Bausche and Lomb Elite 80 scope		
Distance to bird(s) (estimated, unless otherwise noted): 50' – 10'		
Was (Were) bird(s) photographed? No		If so, are you submitting photos?
Who took the photograph(s)?		
Habitat: We are in a riparian area along the Colorado River. Primary vegetation is gambel oak and sarvisberry, with scattered pinyon-juniper, white fir, willow and box elders.		
Behavior: Bird is a ground feeder with actions very similar to the Spotted Towhees that are regular here. The Fox Sparrow hops on the ground with it's tail somewhat cocked and scratches the ground with both feet at once as do the towhees. The bird did not flick or wag it's tail. The bird was with Spotted Towhees, Dark-eyed Juncos, and Song Sparrows. No other ground feeders around.		
DESCRIPTION – Bird is stocky, larger than Juncos and Song Sparrows, smaller than the smallest Spotted Towhees, length approx 7". Tail long in proportion to the body. Bill dark above and light below. Typically sized, not overly large. Dark iris. No obvious eye-ring or wing-bars. Slaty gray head, nape, back, and scapulars. Rusty wing coverts, primaries, secondaries, rump, and tail. White throat, breast, and belly with heavy brown speckling and streaking. In late March the lores have become noticeably white or buffy speckled with brown, with brown forehead and crown. Whitish sub-mustachial stripe strongly wraps around the back of the ear coverts. Weak brown malar stripe.		
Describe the bird's (birds') call(s) and/or song(s), if noted: Did not vocalize		
SIMILAR SPECIES – Spotted Towhee similar in shape – eliminated by size, black head and back, white breast, and rusty flanks. Streak-breasted sparrows – all are eliminated because Fox Sparrow has no crown streaking, eye-line, or any facial patterning. Other Fox Sparrows – iliaca and unalaschcensis groups eliminated because this bird has a slaty gray back, Schistacea altivagans eliminated for the same reason, Megarhynhas eliminated by normal bill size and heavy breast streaking.		
What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species? "schistacea" Fox Sparrows are regular migrants here. I generally see one or two birds each spring and fall and see them at the higher elevations in the summer.		
List books, guides, recordings, or other sources consulted and how these influenced your identification (during and after observation): Sibley, Nat'l Geo 3 <sup>rd</sup> Ed, both confirmed my initial ID on subsequent observations. Prior to my final observation on April 2nd, I referred to Rising's "The Sparrows of the United States and Canada". Rising was my source for the final subspecific ID.		
This report was made from (check one) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> notes made during observation <input type="checkbox"/> notes made after observation <input type="checkbox"/> later from memory.		
Date and time of written report: 4/02/04 9:30AM		
Reporting observer: Thomas C. McConnell		Signature: 
Reporting observer's address: 66 Casa Del Monte Ct.		
City: Glenwood Springs,	State: CO	Zip: 81601
<b>Send report to:</b> <b>Colorado Bird Records Committee</b> <b>Tony Leukering</b> <b>PO Box 660</b> <b>Brighton, CO 80601</b>		