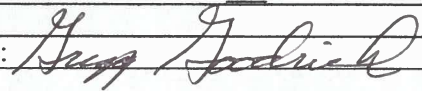


rec'd 7/15/03

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!

2003-56

CBRC FILE #: 2003-56		
RESULTS: (A)		
Species: (Common Name) Baltimore Oriole	(Scientific Name) Icterus galbula	
Date(s) of occurrence: 07/10/03		
Number of birds seen: 1	Sex: Male	Plumage: Breeding Adult
Exact location: Barr Lake in ditch by banding station		
County: Adams	Nearest town: Brighton	Elevation: 5200'
Length of observation: 15 min.	Time(s) of observation: 7:00 AM - 7:15 AM	
Other observers who saw the bird(s) with you: NO		
Other observers who independently saw the bird(s): Eric Zorawowicz and also Doug Faulkner saw the bird on previous days.		
Light conditions (quality; direction relative to bird(s) and observers position: Excellent light. I was east of bird with sun at my back.		
Optical equipment used: Leica binos 8x32 and Swarovski scope 65mm		
Distance to bird(s) (estimated, unless otherwise noted): 50 yards		
Was (Were) bird(s) photographed? Yes	If so, are you submitting photos? Yes	
Who took the photograph(s)? Gregg Goodrich		
Describe the general and specific habitats in which the bird(s) occurred: In the cottonwood trees and weeds on the sides of ditch.		
Describe the bird's (birds') behaviors, particularly behaviors that were used in supporting the identification, e.g., flying, feeding, habits: Gleaning insects from weeds on the ditch and a little fly catching in the ditch.		
DESCRIPTION -- This is the most important part of this report. Include in these details the overall size and shape of the bird and give as many plumage details as possible, even including those that you feel might not have relevance to the specific identification. Please fill out this portion even if photos are accompanying your report. Black hood and back. Bright orange underparts. Same size as the Bullocks Orioles he was fly catching with.		
Describe the bird's (birds') call(s) and/or song(s), if noted: None		
SIMILAR SPECIES -- This is another critical part of your report. Please discuss how you eliminated similar species from consideration: Black hood eliminated Bullocks.		
What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species? I have seen them in the East before.		
List books, guides, recordings, or other sources consulted and how these influenced your identification (during and after observation): Sibley and Nat. Geo. Birds of North America.		
This report was made from (check one) <input type="checkbox"/> notes made during observation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> notes made after observation <input type="checkbox"/> later from memory.		
Date and time of written report: 07/12/03		
Reporting observer: Gregg Goodrich	Signature: 	
Reporting observer's address: 668 N. 21 st Ave.		
City: Brighton	State: CO	Zip: 80601

Send report to:
Colorado Bird Records Committee
Tony Leukering
PO Box 660
Brighton, CO 80601

CFO-ORC FILE # 2003-56

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD _____ UNUSUAL RECORD X

rec'd 8/11/03

Species: Baltimore Oriole (*Icterus galbula*)

Date: 7 July 2003 **Number seen:** one **Sex:** male **Plumage:** adult

Locality: Barr Lake SP (50 meters east of RMBO banding station)

Elevation: ~5,000 ft.

Nearest town: Brighton

County: Adams

Time observed: about 9:15 AM

Duration of observation: approximately 1 minute total

Description: Medium-sized songbird with contrasting black and orange plumage, similar in shape and size as the more common Bullock's Oriole (*I. bullockii*). The first thing I noticed was the head. The head had a completely blackish hood with a small peninsular extension, on the throat, projecting towards the chest. I looked hard for any other coloration on the head and did not see any. Eyes and the sharply pointed bill were dark also. The breast was a bright reddish orange, distinctly redder than the remainder of the underparts which were bright orange. The tail was also bright orange, but with a black "T" shape - with the top of the "T" at the base of the tail and the "T" stem encompassing the innermost rectrices. The upperparts were dark, except I did note a bright orange shoulder patch and some white feather edging, possibly even enough to be considered a wingbar, lower on the wing.

Separation from other species:

In this case, I don't think separation from other species is a concern. All of the other "hooded" orioles are yellow, except for Orchard (*I. spurius*) which is a rusty brown. The concern here is the possibility of a Baltimore x Bullock's hybrid. This individual did not show a single characteristic of Bullock's that should, at least partially, show on a hybrid - orange on head, large white wing patch, or less reddish tones to the chest. The tail pattern is reversed on Bullock's with the top of the black "T" shape being at the distal tip of the tail. Not sure how this would look on a hybrid, but I assume that some amount of black would be exhibited at the proximal and distal edges of the tail. On this individual, the black was limited to the base of the tail and the inner rectrices.

Describe the bird's song and call, if given, including method of delivery (i.e. from perch, in flight, duration): I heard it chatter and it sounded different by being slightly deeper in pitch than the numerous Bullock's Orioles in the immediate area.

What is your prior experience with this and similarly-appearing species? I have seen a few in the eastern U.S. as well as far eastern Colorado.

Light conditions: sun behind me and still low in the sky.

Optical equipment used: 7x42 Zeiss binoculars

Distance, and how estimated: closest at 5 meters

Other observers who saw the bird with you: none

Other observers who saw the bird independently: Eric Zorawowicz (July 6), Glenn Giroir and "On the Wing" bird camp group (July 9), Bob Spencer (July 9), Gregg Goodrich (July 10, photos).

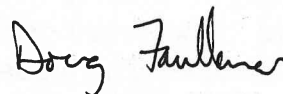
If photographed, type of equipment and film: none

List books, illustrations, recordings, other birders, etc. consulted and how this influenced your identification:

a) at time of observation: none **b) after observation:** National Geographic 3rd Ed. (I wanted to check on possible hybridization, but that field guide does not illustrate that form) and the Sibley guide.

Reporting observer: Doug Faulkner

Signature:



Address: Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, 14500 Lark Bunting Lane, Brighton, CO 80603

Date report was written: 7 July 2003 (other observers mentioned above added on later dates)

Baltimore Oriole

Barr Lake

