

Species: Wood Thrush
(Vernacular name)Hylocichla Mustelina
(Scientific name)

If you watch birds solely for your own enjoyment, a written description of your observations is unnecessary. But, if you have seen something unusual, and would like to share this with others, a written description is essential. Compilers of regional bird lists must insist that their records be scientifically sound; future bird students--those studying occurrences 50 years from now--must have a written record on which to depend. By providing the verifying written description, you are employing a basic rule of the scientific method.

We recognize that experienced field observers can provide important and reliable records, if supported by an adequate verifying description. Thus this request is an effort to perpetuate your record by obtaining concrete evidence which may be permanently preserved for examination by others in the future. This procedure is required for every extraordinary observation, irrespective of the observer.

Date (s): April 2nd and 3rd 1981 Time Bird Seen: 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.Locality: Beulah, Colorado under heavy brush in our yard
Pueblo, Colorado (Pueblo County)
Nearest town, county and state:Optical equipment: None needed - bird very close but used binoculars to verify markings.

If photographed, please enclose copy. Equipment used: _____

Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: M Plumage: _____Light conditions: ExcellentDistance from bird, and how measured: Just back of our feeding station - about 10 to 12 f

Describe the bird's overall behavior: Behaving somewhat like a towhee, thought at first glance it was a brown towhee. But the head and breast markings were unmistakable. The bird was scratching like a brown thrasher and feeding on bugs he was finding under a cover of leaves. It fed in the same spot for two days but did not go to the seed.

Describe the habitat in which you observed the bird: Heavy growth of chokecherry and scrub oak and winter leaves on the ground. Bird feeder near and probably was attracted by the other birds. We leave the underbrush and leaves for bird cover.

Other observers who independently identified this bird (Please list name and address):

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; details on shape or size of bill, wings, and tail. (Reference to its resemblance to field guide descriptions is not enough.) Describe what you actually saw in the field.

Adult with full plumage somewhat smaller than a robin and very fat. Beautiful rufous colored head and back. White breast with dark brown spots. Bill resembles robin in shape.

Describe the bird's calls or sounds, if heard; including method of delivery-- i.e., from perch, in flight, etc.: Other birds making too much noise to hear a call but we only observed this bird while it was feeding. It left as soon as it finished feeding.

List similar species and how you eliminated them:

Listed on reverse side.

Prior experience with this and similar species: Like the brown thrasher, we have seen the wood thrush in our yard on one or two other occasions, very briefly, in the 35 years we have lived here.

This report was written from notes made during ___ after ___ observation; from memory x.

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Signature: Pat Stryker

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