

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

7-0 (A)

rec'd 3/19/04

NEW STATE RECORD ☐UNUSUAL RECORD ☒

Please print or type. Attach photographs and additional pages if necessary.

Species: SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER TYRANNUS FORFICATUS
(Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name)Date(s): MAY 16, 1991Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: M Plumage: ALatilong: 24 Distribution Code: HIGHWAY 149 @ DEER CUTOFF. (MN 18.2) Habitat Code: BETLocality: ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK Elevation: 8860Nearest town: CREEDE (2.5 mi NW) County: MINERALTime(s) observed: 4:15 PM - 6:00 PMDuration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): 1 1/2

Other observers who saw the bird with you (give names, addresses, telephone numbers):

ROBIN SELL USFS BIOLOGIST, CREEDE ANGELO DIST.

Other observers who saw the bird independently (give names, addresses, telephone numbers):

Light conditions (position of bird to light and shade, direction and strength of light):

STRONG LIGHT - SETTING SUN CLEAR SKYOptical equipment used (e.g. power, types): 10x50 BINOC. 20x SPOTTING SCOPEDistance and how measured: 50-100' VISUAL ESTIMATEIf photographed, type of equipment and film: 35MM 64KODACHROME 300mm TELE.Who else photographed the bird: ?

Describe the bird's behavior (e.g. flying, feeding, or habits used in identifying):

Feeding on INSECTS CAPTURED ON THE GROUND 90% AND AIR 10%. Perched on BARE WIRE FENCE

Describe in detail the bird's relative size, overall shape, plumage and color pattern. Include details of bill, wing and tail shape. Give particular emphasis to marks you used to identify the bird. Reference to its resemblance to field guide descriptions and illustrations is not enough. Describe only what you actually observed in the field:

Long fork tail - peach chest & flank ~~Gray~~ cap - Gray Back. Flycatcher shape head & bill

Description (continued):

ST flycatcher was accompanied by a ♂ Western Tanager.
Both birds feeding within 5-50' of each other (See Photo)
Tanager perched lower 2 strands of fence ST flycatcher upper 2.

Describe the bird's song and call, if given, including method of delivery, (i.e. from perch, in flight, duration):

Don't recall - did not take notes

Describe the general and specific habitat in which you observed the bird:

Actively feeding from fence line (2 strand barb, & sheep mesh. 4 strand barb wire). fence line bordered Hwy 149 AND OPEN GRASS PASTURE

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?

♂ Scissortailed Flycatcher? not much confusion.

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species?

Few observations within last 10 yrs in eastern Colo and OKLA.

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

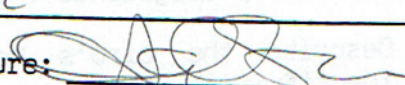
a) At time of observation: Golden Birds of N. America 1983 Robbins

b) After observation: none

This report was written from reports made during observing, after observation _____, from memory _____

Date and time report was written: May 29, 1992

Reporting observer: JAY A. SABASON

Signature: 

Address: Box 424 Creede Co. 81130

All reports will be maintained permanently at the address below:

Return to: CURATOR, DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS
DENVER MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
CITY PARK
DENVER, CO 80205



Photos of Scissor-tailed
Flycatcher taken by Jay
Sarason. Image scanned
from slide and
submitted by J.
Rawinski, March 19,
2004



Memo from Friday, March 19, 2004



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To Colorado Bird Records Committee:

I was looking through my birdfiles and found this rare bird report from Jay Sarason from 1992. I then checked the CBRC database and found out that Jay never sent a copy on to the Committee. So here it is...a good record for the Creede area and better late than never.

Thanks and call if questions.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John", written in a cursive style.

John Rawinski