

ACCEPTED 7-0

CFO-ORC FILE # 1997-62

rec'd 6-4-97 ✓

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS
SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD

UNUSUAL RECORD X

Species:

(Vernacular Name): Scissor-tailed Flycatcher

(Scientific Name): Tyrannus forficatus

Date(s): 5/24/97

Number of birds seen: 1

Sex: ?

Plumage: breeding

Locality: near Road G and Road 13 in Baca County

Elevation: about 4200 feet

Nearest Town: Springfield

Time(s) observed: midday

Duration of observation: 10 minutes.

Other observers with you (names, addresses, phone numbers):

George Ambrust
1832 Independence St
Lakewood, CO 80215
(303)274-4264

Other observers who saw the bird independently:

Light conditions (position of bird to light and shade, direction and strength of light): It was sunny and the sun was high.

Optical equipment used: Leica 10X42 binoculars.

Distance, and how measured: We got within at least 30 feet.

If photographed, type of equipment and film: Canon EOS A2E with Sigma 400 APO Macro lens using Sensia 100 color slide film.

Who else photographed the bird? N/A

Describe the bird's behavior (e.g. flying, feeding, or habits used in identifying): It was usually perched on a fence post or yucca. A kingbird chased it off and it spread the tail wide as it flew.

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 observe in the field: The bird was kingbird sized but the tail was distinctly longer than the body. The wings and back were dark. the bill was also dark. The head, neck, throat, upper back, and underparts were a pale, almost silvery color. When the tail was spread in flight it was deeply forked - almost almost to the rump. Near the rump the tail became one wide piece which was somewhat reminiscent of a Swallow-tailed Kite in flight.

Describe the bird's song and call, if given, including method of delivery, (i.e. from perch, in flight, duration): none

Describe the general and specific habitat in which you observed the bird: Short grass prairie alongside a road.

Previous experience with the species: I have seen many in Texas on my only trip there plus one in Santa Barbara, CA.

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?

There really aren't any.

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

a) at time of observation: none

b) after observation: none

This report was written from reports made during __, after observation --, from memory -XX- and from a photo that I took.
Date and time report was written: 5:30 pm, 6/04/97

Reporting observer: David W. Quesenberry

Signature: *David W. Quesenberry*

Address: 6254 S ELMIRA CIR
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Return to:

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