

rec'd 12-26-97 ✓

PHOTO

ACCEPTED 7-0

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS
SIGHT RECORD FORM

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

Species: **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher**
(Common Name)**Tyrannus forficatus**
(Scientific Name)Date(s) of Occurrence: **August 5, 1997**Number of birds seen: **1**Sex: **M**Plumage: **Adult**Exact Location: **Along Hwy. 14, in Cache la Poudre Canyon**County: **Larimer**Nearest town: **Rustic**Elevation: **7160'**Length of observation: **30 min.** Time(s) of observations: **9:00am - 9:30am**Other observers who independently saw the bird(s): **John F. Barber, Ft Collins;**
Eric Petterson, Ft Collins (original observer; 8/4/97).Light conditions (position of bird to light and shade, direction and strength of light: Open shade to sunlit conditions; **both frontlit and backlit views**Optical equipment used (e.g. power, types): **10X42 B/L Elite Binoculars**Distance, and how measured: **25 feet at closest; estimated**Was the bird photographed? **Yes** If so, have photos been submitted? **Yes**Describe the general and specific habitat in which you observed the bird: **Open pasture (fenced) and shrubby hillsides of lower mountain canyon. A mountain stream is in the vicinity but bird was not seen near it at any time.**Describe the birds behavior (e.g. flying, feeding, or habits used in identifying): **Bird was first seen along a top strand of a barbed wire fence, adjacent to two Western Kingbirds. Fed occasionally by flying out, catching bugs and returning to fence. Then flew alone across the highway (Hwy 14) towards north and perched at top of low shrubs on upslope of canyon walls. Fed from time to time and often returned to the same perch.**

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: **Size of body was similar to Western Kingbirds it sat near, but obviously tail made birds seem much larger. Body was noticeably white, with pinkish hues along sides. Tail was tremendously long, at least as long as the body length and deeply forked. Head white; bill dark; wings and tail dark gray. Plumage was "ruffled", perhaps as a result of heavy rains the previous night, but all marks suggest a post-breeding adult.**

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

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?

This species is unique. There was never any other doubt or possible similar species considered.

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

I have seen this species countless other times.

List books, illustrations, recordings, other sources consulted and how this influenced your identification (during and after observation): **None needed.**

This report was written from reports made during _____ after observation **XX** from memory

Date of written report: **December 21, 1997**

Reporting observer: **Bill Lisowsky**

Signature: _____

Address: **2919 Silverplume Dr. Ft Collins CO**



1997-63

8-5-97

Lisowskij