

Species: White-winged Dove  
(Vernacular name)Zenaidura macroura  
(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): May 12, 1986 Time Bird Seen: 8 AM to 8:05 AMLocality: 2695 S. Winona Ct., Denver, Colorado

Nearest town, county and state:

Optical equipment: Naked eye + B + L 7x35 binoculars

If photographed, please enclose copy. Equipment used: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: \_\_\_\_\_ Plumage: \_\_\_\_\_Light conditions: SunnyDistance from bird, and how measured: 30 feet. Tape measure.

Describe the bird's overall behavior:

Standing on bird feeder platform. The platform had sunflower seeds on it. I didn't see him eating - only standing.

Describe the habitat in which you observed the bird:

Feeding platform in yard (on the deck.)

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

None



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.

Bird at rest - 11" ±

Body - large, grey, unmarked, except  
Neck - black line about 1" long and  
Wing - a wide white line of feathers  
bordered the bottom of the wing  
Eye - orange eye ring circled pupil  
Bill - dark  
Tail - long. Some white showed under  
tail

Bird in flight to tree

Wing - large white patches  
Tail - white corner patches

Describe the bird's calls or sounds, if heard; including method of delivery--  
i.e., from perch, in flight, etc.:

None

List similar species and how you eliminated them:

Mourning Dove - see above right. M.D. has black spots  
on wing but no white wing line.  
M.D. eye has a blue circle around pupil.

Prior experience with this and similar species:

White-winged Dove seen in Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Mexico  
Mourning Dove common in Colorado

This report was written from notes made during X after \_\_\_ observation; from memory \_\_\_.

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