

DOCUMENTATION OF LATILONG PAIR BIRD SIGHTING
FOR
THE COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS' RECORDS

25-90-28

A

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): 6/4/90 (1300hrs) - 6/9/90 (1615hrs) Time Bird Seen: _____ to _____

Locality: In city, backyard residential area, in tree at rear of property about 30' up in tree in crotch next to trunk. Also on utility wires to rear of property, and on platform feeder next to house (see pictures). Denver, CO
~~Nearest town, county and state:~~

Optical equipment: Bushnell Spacemaster 20x 60 mm scope; Pentax MESuper, 35mm; 200 mm lens; ASA 200 Kodachrome Film (print); Kodachrome ASA25-Slide
If photographed, please enclose copy. Equipment used: _____

(See enclosed print (slide))

Number of birds seen: one Sex: ? Plumage: Assume breeding (see photo)

Light conditions: Excellent, bright sunny days, no clouds, temp 80's slide

Distance from bird, and how measured: Photos are 5' from window in house. Tree photo is about 100' (camera rangefinder estimate)

Describe the bird's overall behavior:

Passive, non aggressive in feeder, otherwise non-social in tree and on utility wires even though Rock Doves and Mourning Doves close by. One day sat in tree all day by self. Two days came and went from tree to wires to feeder, most days flew south (assume to Bear Creek 2 miles to South) and returned by 1700 hrs: Usually would feed, sunflower seeds, for 1/2 hr at about 1700-1800hrs, along with Mourning Doves. On utility wires about 20' from ground, strict territory always observed; (WWD by self at N. end of property; two RD in center two MD at S. end of property. This pattern always observed.)

Describe the habitat in which you observed the bird:

Backyard open space, trees surround property; including large (60') elm not yet fully leafed out, permitting easy view. Utility wires to rear of property (35' from rear of house); platform feeder with black small sunflower seeds and peanuts, feeder with mixed seed essentially ignored by doves, although did feed briefly on white millet on patio table.

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

See list attached

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.

Initially noticed bird as was exhibiting unusual dove behavior on utility wire. Was standing rather than sitting on wire. Later both sat and stood. Scope revealed trailing white on folded wings, red/orange feet, bright red eye, blue eyering extending to back of head. Darker than Mourning Dove, no black spots; squareish tale, white at end of tail; downturned bill; bulkier than MD. Only one bird seen. About 11" long; brown color. "Fluttering" flight similar to MD in short flight from feeder to overhead wire but rapid flight when going longer distances. Unafraid of other birds in area, and allowed photos from window 5-6' from feeder and tree next to house.

Bird last seen 6/9/90 at 1615 hrs. At platform feeder and in tree at rear of property. Flew S. towards Bear Creek and did not return to my knowledge.

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

Never made any sound during to time observed.

List similar species and how you eliminated them:

Obviously similar to Mourning Dove, but scope ID of no black markings on body, red eye, blue eyering, white edge on folded wings, orange/red feet, squareish tale with white end - all distinguished from both MD and RD. Bulkier bird than MD, thinner than RD.

Prior experience with this and similar species:

Never saw bird in any other area of country, never in Colorado. Mourning Doves & Rock Doves are common in this area, & feed daily on feeders.

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

NAME (print): Addie and Irv Cohen

Mailing address: 3038 S. Gray St., Denver, Colorado 80220

Signature: Juan H. Cohen

Return Form To: CFO Records Committee
c/o Curator - Dept. of Zoological Collections
Denver Museum of Natural History
City Park
Denver, CO 80205

HUGH E. KINGERY
869 Milwaukee Street
Denver, Colorado 80209

List of Observers

White Winged Dove Sighting.

6/6/90.

1330 hrs - Thompson Marsh
199 Ash, Denver Co 80220

1500 hrs - William Brockner
5965 S Herzman Dr
Evergreen CO 80439

6/7/90

0745 hrs - Dick Schottler
25 S Indiana Pl.
Golden CO 80401.

1700 hrs

Joe Rotter
13040 W 16th Dr.
(Golden CO 80401.)

1800 hrs

William Fink

Jerry Cairns

P.O. Box 5335

Greeley, CO 80631.

Date (6/7 or 6/8.)

Peter Gent

55 S. 35 St

Boulder CO 80303

Date: 6/7 or 6/8/90

Hick Kloster
2569 East 99 m
Thornton Co 80229

6/9/90 Duane Nelson
1330 hrs 31428 Burke Rd
in crotch of tree. Golden Co 80403.

Drew and Becky Smith
5169 Split Trail Dr
Colorado Springs Co 80917

Robert Spencer
4430 Gladiola St
Golden Co 80403

IRA SANDERS
314 DeFrance Ct
Golden Co 80401.

