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CFO-ORC FILE # 2003-17

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD \_\_\_\_\_ UNUSUAL RECORD \_\_\_\_\_

Species: Buff-breasted Sandpiper (Tryngites subruficollis)

Date: 29 August 2003

Number seen: one

Sex: unknown

Plumage: juvenal

Locality: SE corner of Barr Lake

Elevation: ~5,000 feet

Nearest town: Brighton

County: Adams

Time observed: mid-afternoon around 3 PM

Duration of observation: several minutes

**Description:** Medium-sized, cream-colored, shorebird with long yellow legs; approximate, but not larger than, in size to Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*). The bird associated with other shorebirds, but stayed away from the actual shoreline, preferring the mudflats about 40-50 feet away. The underparts were unmarked, creamy-yellow in color, as was the face. The crown and upperparts were the same basal creamy-yellow, but the crown had dark brown spots running in rows from the forecrown to the back. The mantle, scapulars, and wing feathers had dark brown centers edged in tan. The bill was short, thin, pointed and entirely dark. The eyes were dark also.

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

What is your prior experience with this and similarly-appearing species? All total, I have seen dozens of this species in Indiana, Louisiana, and Colorado.

Light conditions: breezy and partly cloudy with the sun high and behind me for most of the time

Optical equipment used: Kowa 20x60 scope

Distance, and how estimated: at first about 15 meters

Other observers who saw the bird with you: Gene Rutherford, Ira Sanders, Tony Leukering, Glenn Walbek

Other observers who saw the bird independently: Bob and LeAnn Brown (initial observers on same date)

If photographed, type of equipment and film: Coolpix 4500 digital through scope

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

a) at time of observation: none

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b) after observation: I looked at several to age the bird.

Reporting observer: Doug Faulkner

Signature: Dong Faulen

Address: Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, 14500 Lark Bunting Lane, Brighton, CO 80603

Date report was written: 30 August 2003 from memory.

