

Species: Vermilion Flycatcher  
(Vernacular name)Pyrocephalus rubinus  
(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 2 & 3, 1982 Time Bird Seen: Bird seen 6 or 7 times in the 2 daysLocality: ALAMOSA NWR, old office site, now a residence (mine)  
ALAMOSA, Alamosa, Colorado  
Nearest town, county and state:Optical equipment: binocularsIf photographed, please enclose copy. Equipment used: Not photographedNumber of birds seen: 1 Sex: M Plumage: BreedingLight conditions: GoodDistance from bird, and how measured: 30 feet at maximum, paced

Describe the bird's overall behavior:

Bird exhibited typical flycatcher behavior, hunted insects from perch.

Describe the habitat in which you observed the bird:

Bird was sighted 5 times in row of Russian Olive trees ~ 30 ft. south of house and was sighted twice on split rail fence to east of house

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

Linda A. Kauffold, P.O. Box 1182, ALAMOSA, Co. 81101

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 seen was a male. He had reddish-pinkish breast with black eye stripe, black tail, and wings. Bird was ~ 5" long, small flycatcher size.

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

No sounds heard

List similar species and how you eliminated them:

Only other north american bird close to this is a scarlet tanager. This bird was smaller, and did not act like a tanager.

Prior experience with this and similar species:

None, but I am 100% sure it is what I saw.

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

NAME (print): JON KAUFFELD

Mailing address: P.O. Box 1182, ALAMOSA, Co. 81101

Signature: Jon D. Kauffeld

Return to:  
Hugh E. Kingery  
869 Milwaukee Street  
Denver, Colorado 80206