

SPECIES: VERMILION FLYCATCHER
(Vernacular Name)

Pyrocephalus rubinus
(Scientific Name)

DATE(S): April 4, 1990

TIME OF OBSERVATION: 1:00 PM TO 1:15 PM

EXACT LOCATION: Plum Creek Pincic area, Chatfield SRA

NEAREST TOWN: Littleton

COUNTY: Adams

OTHER OBSERVERS WHO INDEPENDENTLY IDENTIFIED THIS BIRD:

Virgil Williams

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT: B & L Elite 8x42 binoculars

WEATHER CONDITIONS: Cloudy & threatening; wind 5-10 mph; 55°F

BIRD/SUN ORIENTATION: Seen at various angles as bird flew from perch to perch.

DISTANCE FROM BIRD AND HOW MEASURED: 20 to 100 ft (estimate)

NUMBER OF BIRDS SEEN: 1 SEX: F PLUMAGE:

BEHAVIOR AND DEMEANOR: Typical flycatcher behavior. Perched on several prominent branches & twigs. Made regular hawking forays & then took up the same or different nearby perch. Made 2 or 3 brief visits to ground where she apparently was catching insects.

HEAD & NECK (forehead, crown, auricular & malar regions, median line, etc.):

Fairly uniform brown.

EYES & LORES (supercilium, eye-ring, eye-stripe, color, etc.):

Dark eyes. No eye ring.

LOWER & UPPER MANDIBLES (color & shape): Dark upper & lower mandibles. A moderately short but pointed straight bill.

LEGS & FEET:

UPPERPARTS (nape, back, rump, uppertail coverts, etc.):

Brown nape, back, & rump.

UNDERPARTS (chin, throat, belly, sides, flanks, crissum, etc.):

Nearly white breast with pale brown streaks (more conspicuous at side).
Peach-colored under-tail coverts.

RETRICES (inner, middle & outer tail feathers; color, pattern, shape, etc.):

Nearly black slightly notched tail.

WINGS (color, length, shape, bars, coverts, etc.):

Brown w/ inconspicuous buff ~~at~~ wing bars.

VOCALIZATION (call/song, method of delivery, i.e., from perch, in flight):

None

HABITAT: Dead & dying cottonwoods & open area adjacent to Plum Creek.

ELIMINATION OF SIMILARLY APPEARING SPECIES:

~~Breast~~ streaks on light-colored breast & brown head ruled out Say's Phoebe. Also too small, ^{1st} Say's Phoebe

PRIOR EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND SIMILARLY APPEARING SPECIES:

Very familiar from years of field work in southern New Mexico, Arizona and western Texas.

BOOKS, ILLUSTRATIONS AND ADVICE CONSULTED THAT INFLUENCED THIS REPORT:

None at first but later looked at Nat. Geo. & Golden guides.

THIS REPORT WRITTEN FROM NOTES MADE DURING AFTER ☒ OBSERVATION; FROM ☐ MEMORY

NAME: ~~Philip~~ PHILIP HAYES SIGNATURE: Philip Hayes DATE: 4/4/90

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