

Colorado Field Ornithologists Sight Record Form

(this is a two page report-click at the bottom for page 2)

2003-165 [A]

rec'd
5/9/03

CBRC FILE #: _____

RESULTS: _____

Print this page and then fill out. Attach photographs and additional pages if necessary.

Species (please include common and scientific names): Vermilion Flycatcher, (*Pyrocephalus rubinus*)

Date(s) of Observation: April 30 through May 6 2003...

Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: Male ♂ Plumage: Red and almost black with a small white spot on sides of rump.

Exact location: 1 mile south of Hooper, Alamosa County, Colorado, on road 109N, between roads 10N and 11N.

County: Alamosa

Nearest town: Hooper.

Elevation: 7,558 feet

Length of observation: 7+ hours total.

Time(s) of observation: Ranged from

9:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Other observers who saw the bird(s) with you: Micah, Joshua, Kalen Malueg, Mike and Kelly Walburg, and John Stump, etc.

Other observers who independently saw the bird(s): A/N

Light conditions (quality; direction relative to bird(s) and observer(s) position): Ranging, usually good.

Optical equipment used: Eagle Optics Ranger Platinum Class 8X42, Leica Trivid 8X32, Eagle Optics Ranger by Celestron binoculars, and a Nikon Spotting

scope etc. Distance to bird(s) (estimated, unless otherwise noted): Ranging from 10 feet to 1000 yards +.

Was (were) bird(s) photographed? Yes If so, are you submitting photos? Yes

Who took the photograph(s)? Josiah Malueg.

Describe the general and specific habitats in which the bird(s) occurred: Open farm land and pasture with a small pond and trees near by.

Describe the bird's (birds') behaviors, particularly behaviors that were used in supporting the identification, e.g., flying, feeding, habits: Flycatching and sitting low on fence lines and on the ground. Tail flipping and spreading.

[click here for page 2 of this form](http://www.cfo-link.org/reportform.html)

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DESCRIPTION -- This is the **most important** part of this report. Include in these details the overall size and shape of the bird, how you placed the bird in the general group that you did, and give as many plumage details as possible, even including those that you feel might not have relevance to the specific identification. Features to include are the color(s) and/or patterns of the head, eyes, bill, back, folded wings, open wings, tail, chin, throat, breast, sides, flanks, belly, vent, and legs. Also, please include, where possible, shape of the whole bird, of the wings - folded or open, of the bill, and of the tail. Please fill out this portion even if photos are accompanying your report. We welcome attachments of additional sheets of description, drawings, field sketches, or copies of field notes.

This ♂ Vermilion Flycatcher was about 6 inches. Its prominent red and dark brown patterning were plainly visible. The bird had dark brown or black, bill, eye stripe, nape, mantle, upper wings, and tail. The under side was red, and the face and crown were also red. IT also had a small white patch on the sides of its rump. (Only visible when the bird was fluffed up). There was a small little line down the center of the under parts. Black eye.

Describe the bird's (birds') call(s) and/or song(s), if noted:

SIMILAR SPECIES -- This is another critical part of your report. Please discuss how you eliminated similar species from consideration. The Scarlet Tanager is the only similar species I can think of, and shape and pattern show that it is a Male Vermilion Flycatcher.

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species?

List books, guides, recordings, or other sources consulted and how this influenced your identification (during and after observation): Sibley's Guide to the birds of NA, etc. And it didn't influence my identification, except for confirming it!

This report is from notes made from (check one) ☐ noted made during observation ☐ noted made after observation ☒ later from memory.

Date and time of written report: May 7th 2003, 3:38 p.m.

Reporting observer: Josiah Malveg.

Signature: Josiah Malveg.

Address: Birdbrains, ATTN Josiah Malveg, general delivery, Hooper Post Office, Hooper, Colorado. (81136)

E-mail: thebirdcr7@hotmail.com.

Send report to: Colorado Birds Record Committee, Tony Leukering, PO Box 660, Brighton, CO 80601.

Photo #1



Note dark "mask" on auriculars.
VEFL stayed mostly in open pasture
often near a small pond.

Digital Photo Of Vermilion Flycatcher
taken with Sony Digital Still Camera DSC-F1
held up to the Eyepiece of a 60mm Nikon Spotting
Scope at 45x. (image looked larger in scope than the photo.)
Photo by Josiah Malueg

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Photo #2



Note: whitish feathers
on sides of rump are
visible when "puffed out"
or preening.

perched in
budding Willow Tree

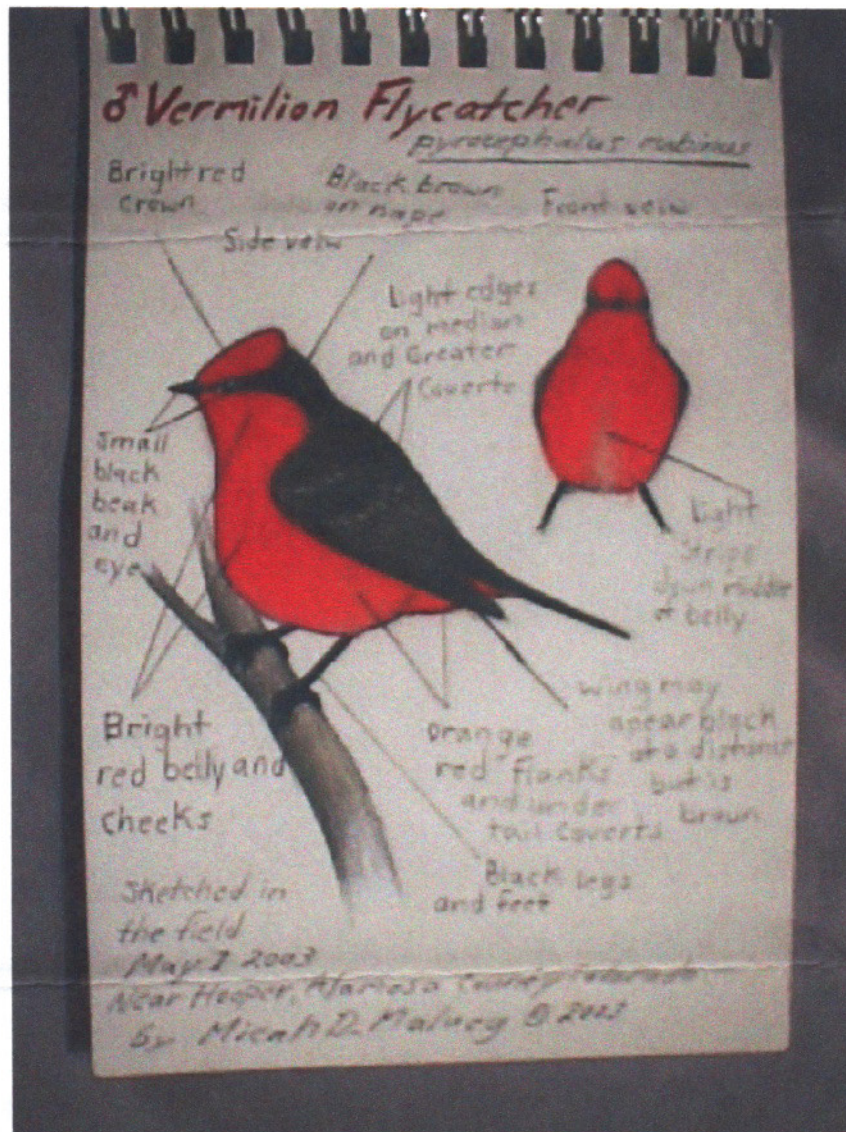
Digital Photo taken by same process as
Photo #1 but enlarged to print

Photo by Josiah Malueg

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Digital Photo of field sketch done by Micah Malueg on May 1st 2003. Note that photo is somewhat blurry and does not show the full detail of the original sketch, such as light edged median, and greater coverts that are hard to see in this photo. Photo taken with Sony Digital Still Camera DSC-F1