

DOCUMENTATION OF RARE BIRD SIGHTINGS
FOR
THE COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS' RECORDS

A

Species: Scarlet Tanager; Piranga olivacea
(Vernacular name) (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.

Dates (s): August 10, 1978 Time Bird Seen: 3:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M.

Locality: T46N R2W S.16 NE 1/4 SE 1/4

Powderhorn, Gunnison, Colorado

Nearest town, county and state:

Optical equipment: Bushnell 7x50 Binoculars

If photographed, please enclose copy. Equipment used: _____

Number of birds seen: one Sex: male Plumage: breeding adult

Light conditions: excellent, sunny, sun behind my back.

Distance from bird, and how measured: Approximately 10 ft., Paced.

Describe the bird's overall behavior:
Flew from trees (D. Fir, Pine, Aspen) as I approached - Flew about 12 ft. off ground into other trees,

Describe the habitat in which you observed the bird:

Edge of Artemisia tridentata and Pinus ponderosa and Pseudotsuga menziesii and Populus tremuloides

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

None

55-79-20

APPENDIX II Continued

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. Size - about 6 inches.
Wings - Dark Black Tail - Dark Black Body - BRIGHT Red

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

NONE

List similar species and how you eliminated them:

Red Crossbill - ^{Body} Wings and tail not black enough. ~~not~~ not bright red.
 Summer Hepatic Tanager - Wings and tail not black enough.
 Vermillion Flycatcher - Color combinations are not correct

Prior experience with this and similar species:
 Have seen Red Crossbills Summer 1976

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

Name (print) : Jim Bredy c/o Bureau of Land Management

Mailing address: District Office, Montrose Colorado

Signature: Jim Bredy

Return Form To:

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