

ACCEPTED (70)

161  
CFO-ORC-FILE# 1998-~~1998~~

PHOTO x1  
✓ rec'd 12/98

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS SIGHT RECORD FORM

Results: \_\_\_\_\_

**Species:**

Scarlet Tanager

Piranga olivacea

**Dates:** 5/9/98, 5/10/98

**Number of birds seen:** one

**Sex:** I thought it was an immature male because the wings were darker than the back

**Plumage:** alternate

**Locality:** Ft. Lyon wildlife easement

**Elevation:** about 4200 feet I think

**Nearest town:** Ft. Lyon

**County:** Bent

**Time observed:** 10:00 am on 5/9 and 9:15 am on 5/10

**Duration of observation:** not noted

**Other observers with you:** Ric Olson others I can't recall

**Other observers who saw the bird independently:**

**Light conditions:** overcast with sun at our backs and popping out occasionally on 5/9. clear and sunny on 5/10

**Optical equipment:** Leica 10x42 Ultras; photo taken with Canon A2E using Sigma 400 APO MACRO lens

**Distance from bird:** not noted

**Describe the bird's behavior:** it was resting on a branch apparently after taking a bath

**Describe the bird (what you actually saw):**

I did not take any notes so the photo is all I really have

**Describe the bird's song and call if heard:** not noted

**Describe the habitat in which you observed the bird:** wooded area near a swampy creek

**How did you eliminate similarly appearing species:**

Western Tanager: eliminated by lack of wing bars

Summer & Hepatic Tanagers: eliminated by contrast of darker wings with lighter back

**What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species:** No immature Scarlet Tanagers. Hundreds of Western Tanagers. Maybe a couple dozen adult Hepatic and Summer Tanagers of both sexes.

**List books if they helped in your identification:** Birds of North America (NGS)

This report was written from notes taken during x, or after observation  
   or from memory   . I took almost no notes.

Reporting observer:

David W. Quesenberry

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## COLORADO RARE BIRD REPORT

## SCARLET TANAGER

Piranga olivaceaLocation: Ft. Lyon Wildlife Easement; Las Animas; Bent County, ColoradoDate: May 8, 1998Setting:

The bird was found by others, but seen by scores of observers during the CFO convention. We discovered the bird in the wildlife easement about 11:35 a.m. and watched it for about 10 minutes. The easement is a dense area of elms and other mid-sized to large trees – but with very little ground cover. The day was windy and partly cloudy. It foraged quietly in the tops of the trees, in heavy foliage. It was rather slow-moving, lethargic, quiet and hard to observe. I observed the bird mainly from underneath and I was able to observe its sides and the face well. I did not see the upperparts well, though I could observe the folded wings. I watched it with B & L Elite 10x40 binoculars.

Description:

The bird was about 7" long. It was a female. It was mainly yellowish, with yellowish-green tones to the plumage (not mustard colored like Summer Tanager). The wings and tail were dusky, not jet black, but clearly dark. There were no wingbars. The bill was stout, yellowish and untoothed. The bird was basically darker, more olive-y above and lighter, more yellow-y below.

Similar Species:

The size, bill size and shape and stout appearance indicate a tanager. Hepatic Tanager and Summer Tanagers lack the bright yellow and green tones of this bird and do not have a clearly darker wing. Summer Tanager is more mustard-colored and has a paler, browner wing. Western Tanager has wingbars. The yellow, untoothed bill rule out the other tanagers.

Experience with Species:

I have seen many female Scarlet Tanagers, including a few in Colorado. I have experience with all other birds mentioned above.

This report is prepared from notes made during and after observation.



Mark Janos  
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**Yellow-throated Warbler**  
**Ft. Lyons (16th & JJ) 5/16/98**  
 1998-124



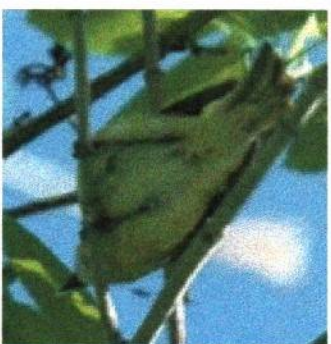
**Prairie Warbler**  
**Fountain Creek 9/5/98**  
 1998-126



**Scarlet Tanager**  
**Ft. Lyons 5/9/98**  
 1998-~~1004~~ 161



**Magnolia Warbler**  
**Crow Valley CG 5/23/98**



**White-eyed Vireo**  
**Chatfield State Park 5/24/98**  
 1998-95



**Worm-eating Warbler**  
**Lamar Community College 5/3/98**  
 1998-133

