

# COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS

## SIGHT RECORD FORM

*recd*  
7-23-98 ✓

RESULTS : ACCEPTED (7-0)

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE. ATTACH PHOTOGRAPHS AND ADDITIONAL PAGES IF NECESSARY.

SPECIES: Scarlet Tanager Piranga olivacea  
(Common Name) (Scientific Name)

DATE(S) OF OCCURRENCE: July 22, 1998

NUMBER OF BIRDS SEEN: 1 SEX: M PLUMAGE: adult breeding

EXACT LOCATION: 2105 Country Club Cove, Ft. Collins + 1933 Country Club Rd.

COUNTY: Larimer NEAREST TOWN: Ft. Collins ELEVATION: Ft. Collins

LENGTH OF OBSERVATION: 1.5 hrs. TIME(S) OF OBSERVATION: 8:30 - 10 am

OTHER OBSERVERS WHO SAW THE BIRD(S) WITH YOU:

BB Hahn

Dr. Alex Cringan

OTHER OBSERVERS WHO INDEPENDENTLY SAW THE BIRD(S):

LIGHT CONDITIONS (QUALITY; DIRECTION RELATIVE TO BIRD(S); POSITION): cloudy, light rain

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT USED: Leica 8x42 BA. I'm not sure what binocs BB or Alex use.

DISTANCE FROM BIRD (ESTIMATED UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED): 30 feet.

WAS BIRD PHOTOGRAPHED? NO IF SO, HAVE YOU SUBMITTED PHOTOS? \_\_\_\_\_

WHO TOOK THE PHOTOGRAPHS? \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIBE THE GENERAL AND SPECIFIC HABITAT IN WHICH THE BIRD(S) OCCURRED:

Most time observed was in an Elm tree in a back yard.

DESCRIBE THE BIRD'S BEHAVIOR (FLYING; FEEDING; HABITS; BEHAVIORS USED IN IDENTIFYING THE SPECIES OR IN SUPPORTING THE IDENTIFICATION):

feeding off insects on the tree. Moving quite actively through the top 1/3 of the tree. Very much in the open for a significant portion of the time observed.

CBRC Rare Bird Report Form

red 8-48 ✓

This is a sample rare bird form for the CBRC. Print it out or copy it and put into a word processor to document rare bird sightings.

CFO-ORC-FILE# 1998-146

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS SIGHT RECORD FORM

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

Species:

Scarlet Tanager

*Piranga olivacea*

Dates: 22 July 1998

Number of birds seen: 1

Sex: male

Plumage: high breeding plumage

Locality: 1933 Country Club Road, Long Pond, Fort Collins

Elevation: 4500-5000'

Nearest town: Fort Collins

County: Larimer

Time observed: between 9:00 AND 9:30 AM

Duration of observation: for about 10 minutes within the half-hour that I was there

Other observers with you: (Found by) Rachel Kolokoff and BB Hahn

Other observers who saw the bird independently: Joe Lafleur, Carlsons, and others?

Light conditions: dull overcast & sprinkling while I was there

Optical equipment: Falsen <sup>7x35</sup> ~~6x20~~ binoculars

Distance from bird: from 10 to 40 m



Describe the bird's behavior: feeding very actively in crowns of Siberian Elms and Honey Locusts

Describe the bird (what you actually saw): **bright** red with black wings and black tail; red brilliant, such that it could be seen readily when as little as a few square centimeters of body of bird could be glimpsed through a small hole in screening foliage of trees in which it was feeding

Describe the bird's song and call if heard: NA

Describe the habitat in which you observed the bird: suburban residential landscape; mature landscape plantings around homes which have been there for 30 to 35 year; across busy road from Long Pond, which is bordered at that place by mature Cottonwoods.

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species: other red tanagers lack black wings & tail; only other red bird with dark wings that I'm familiar with is Red Crossbill, which does not have the brilliant red body color of the SCTA

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species: I saw many adult male SCTA in Ontario 1941-1970; saw several at Pt. Pelee in 1990

List books if they helped in your identification:

This report was written from notes taken during \_\_, or after observation \_\_ or from memory\_X\_\_.

Reporting observer:

Signature: Alex Cringan Alex Cringan

Address:

Mail to: Mark Janos, 10 Sedum Court, Pueblo, CO 81001.

24 July 1998

(It was great to see this bird, a first for me in Colorado, under such good conditions; I am greatly impressed by the skills of active birders such as Rachel and BB, who, I understand, first saw the bird fly across the road in front of them, and concluded that it was different and worth another look; in this case, again cell phones enabled them to alert me to the bird's presence and allowed me to get to the site within 20 minutes of first receiving Rachel's call.)

CFO-ORC-FILE# 1998-146

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS SIGHT RECORD FORM

*valid 8-6-98*

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

Species: Scarlet Tanager  
(Common Name)

Piranga olivacea  
(Scientific Name)

Date: July 22, 1998

Number of birds seen: One

Sex: Male

Plumage: Still in bright breeding plumage, with only a little body molt on the sides very close to the greater coverts and a sprinkling on the belly. Guessing less than 1% of body feathers colored yellow-green.

Locality: Country Club Road on the east end of Long Pond northeast of North College Avenue, Fort Collins

Elevation: 4,350

Nearest town: Fort Collins

County: Larimer

Time observed: From approx. 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Duration of observation: Approx. 1 1/2 hours

Other observers with you: Rachel Kolokoff, Alex Cringan

Other observers who saw the bird independently: Joe LaFleur, others, after we'd reported the bird.

Light conditions: Overcast. Very light rain ~9:20 to 9:45.

Optical equipment: Swarovski 10 x 42 binocs.

Distance from bird: From 30 feet to 50 yards (mostly around 30 feet).

Describe the bird's behavior: Actively feeding in large elms and other shade trees in residential area. Feasting on many insects gleaned from the trees. Healthy appearance.

Describe the bird (what you actually saw): Brilliantly red, somewhat chunky bird with black wings and shortish black tail, pale bill, dark eye, very little body molt.

Describe the bird's song and call if heard: Did not vocalize.

Describe the habitat in which you observed the bird: Residentail area with mature shade trees, close by Long Pond.

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species: Did not have bill size, shape or color of Summer or Hepatic Tanagers. Wings and tail fully oldly b lack, not dull and washed with color of Summer and Hepataic Tanagers. Back, Breast and belly were pure, bold red, not brownish or rosy. No cheek patch like Hepatic Tanagaer.

Red Crossbill - no way.

Vermillion flycatcher - our bird was larger, had no mask, its back was red, its wings/tail very dark black, not brown. Also had 'tanager' bill.

What is you prior experience with this and similarly appearing species: Have seen Summer Tanager in Tucson and Belize (1994) and Hepatic in Mexico (1996). Sightings were lengthy, but I only saw a few birds. Red Crossbill I am very familiar with, having hordes of them at my home each year. Vermillion Flycatcher I've seen in Arizona and Belize (1994). Have no experience with Summer Tanager, but it's conspicuous plumage was a great I.D.

List books if they helped in your identification: Even with this bird's conspicuous plumage, we looked in National Geographic Field Guide to the Birds of North American and Peterson's Western Birds.

This report was written from notes taken during   X  , or after observation   X   or from memory     .

Reporting observer: BB Hahn  
Address: 2915 Hodgen Road  
Black Forest, Co 80921  
719-495-0647

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_