

## COLORADO RARE BIRD REPORT

7-0 (A)

Rcd 2/2/01 upl

## SCARLET TANAGER

Piranga olivaceaLocation: "Goodnight" river trail along Arkansas R.; Pueblo; Pueblo, County, ColoradoDate: May 20, 2000

I found this bird after looking for the Blue-winged Warbler earlier in the morning. I also found a singing male Black-throated Blue this day in the same area. The tanager flew to me across an open area to land and forage in a small shrub about 10' tall along a hillside where I was standing. I observed it from very close range and got good views. The total observation was for about 2 or 3 minutes. It fed rather slowly, with long pauses and not a lot of motion. I watched it from about 20' distance, with B & L Elite 10x40 binoculars.

Description:

The bird was a female; about 7" long and solidly built. It was yellowish-green overall, darker and greener above and bright yellow-green below. The rump was the same color as the back. The wings and tail were a dark dusky-colored greenish, and they lacked any trace of wingbars. The bill was strong -- stout, and yellowish in color.

Similar Species:

The medium size, strong bill 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 mustardy-colored and has a paler, browner wing. Western Tanager has wingbars.

Experience with Species:

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

This report is prepared from notes made during observation.

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