

COLORADO RARE BIRD REPORT

7-0 (A)

Red 2/2/01 wpl

SCARLET TANAGER
Piranga olivacea

Location: Lamar (Willow Park); Prowers County, Colorado

Date: May 21, 2000

I was birding with Brandon Percival and he spotted this bird. It was easy to observe, low in Russian olives bordering the road behind the college at Lamar C.C. I watched it with B & L Elite 10x40 binoculars.

Description:

The bird was about 7" long. It was an unmistakable male. It was overall brilliant red, with jet black wings and tail. There were no wingbars. The bill heavy and dark gray. Legs and feet gray. Eye black.

Similar Species:

Forget it. Vermillion Flycatcher has black cap, nape, back, post-ocular. Cardinal is larger, crested, lacks black/red pattern.

Experience with Species:

I have seen many Scarlet Tanagers, including a few in Colorado.

This report is prepared from memory.

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