

## COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

ACCEPTED

NEW STATE RECORD \_\_\_\_\_ UNUSUAL RECORD X**Species:** Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga olivacea*)**Date:** 19 May 2001**Number seen:** one**Sex:** male**Plumage:** alternate**Locality:** Fort Lyons Wildlife Easement**Elevation:** 3870 feet**Nearest town:** Fort Lyon**County:** Bent**Time observed:** I don't recall**Duration of observation:** several minutes**Description:**

Paul Hurtado and I were leading a field trip for the CFO annual convention in Pueblo and had made a stop at the Fort Lyon Wildlife Easement to look for rare migrants. We had split up and Paul was lagging behind a bit when he yelled out "Scarlet Tanager" - this immediately drew our attention and we rushed back to where Paul was looking up at a brilliant red and black bird in the trees above him. The bird was of medium size for a passerine and was similarly shaped as the Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*), but the head and upper- & underparts were a bright red color. The wings and tail were solidly black which made a sharp contrast against the red of the body feathers. I did not note any other features.

**Describe the bird's song and call, if given, including method of delivery (i.e. from perch, in flight, duration):** none heard

**What is your prior experience with this and similarly-appearing species?** I have seen dozens of this species during spring migration in the east.

**Light conditions:** I don't recall**Optical equipment used:** Zeiss 7x42 binoculars

**Distance, and how estimated:** the bird was mostly in the tree tops and was probably at closest within 20 meters for me

**Other observers who saw the bird with you:** Paul Hurtado (initial observer), Glenn Walbek, Gregg Goodrich, and several others that were on our fieldtrip.

**Other observers who saw the bird independently:** None that I know of.

**If photographed, type of equipment and film:** none

**List books, illustrations, recordings, other birders, etc. consulted and how this influenced your identification:**

**a) at time of observation:** none

**b) after observation:** none

**Reporting observer:** Doug Faulkner

**Signature:** 

**Address:** Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, 14500 Lark Bunting Lane, Brighton, CO 80601

**Date report was written:** 23 May 2002 from memory.