

44-88-04

A

DOCUMENTATION OF LATILONG PAPE BIRD SIGHTING
FOR
THE COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS' RECORDS

Species: Varied Thrush
(Vernacular name)

Ixoreus Naevius
(Scientific name)

If you watch birds solely for your own enjoyment, a written description of your observations is unnecessary. But, if you have seen something unusual, and would like to share this with others, a written description is essential. Compilers of regional bird lists must insist that their records be scientifically sound; future bird students--those studying occurrences 50 years from now--must have a written record on which to depend. By providing the verifying written description, you are employing a basic rule of the scientific method.

We recognize that experienced field observers can provide important and reliable records, if supported by an adequate verifying description. Thus this request is an effort to perpetuate your record by obtaining concrete evidence which may be permanently preserved for examination by others in the future. This procedure is required for every extraordinary observation, irrespective of the observer.

Date (s): November 9 & 10, 1987 Time Bird Seen: 7:00 am to 7:30 am

Locality: Suburban yard, S.W. Denver
City of Denver, County of Denver, Colorado
Nearest town, county and state:

Optical equipment: Bushnell 10x40

If photographed, please enclose copy. Equipment used: No photo

Number of birds seen: One Sex: M Plumage: _____

Light conditions: Clear, good light conditions.

Distance from bird, and how measured: Estimated 20-30 feet.

Describe the bird's overall behavior:

Flew onto the lawn from a border of pinon/juniper trees. Would sit motionless at first, then began hopping about feeding on crushed Hopa crabapples,

The second day he appeared at the same time, and repeated the above activities.

We left for work at 7:30 am and are not sure how long he stayed in the yard.

Describe the habitat in which you observed the bird: Mowed lawn with crabapple shade tree, surrounded by pine and juniper border trees.

Other observers who independently identified this bird (Please list name and address):

None

Describe in great detail the bird which you saw. Emphasize particularly the field marks used to identify the bird, but include a complete description of the bird. Include size, overall shape, plumage and color pattern; details on shape or size of bill, wings, and tail. (Reference to its resemblance to field guide descriptions is not enough.) Describe what you actually saw in the field.

Approximately 8-9", robin shape, bill medium length and slender, dark eye, wings extended just beyond the body and tail medium length.

Dark back and head with orange stripe from just above the front of the eye extending back most of the length of the head. Orange throat and breast, with prominent black breast band. Two orange wing bars, with 2 or 3 orange wing stripes. Gray and orange color alternating on belly under middle of wings.

Describe the bird's calls or sounds, if heard; including method of delivery--i.e., from perch, in flight, etc.:

None

List similar species and how you eliminated them:

Robin, - Robin has a redder breast, no dark breast band, no eye stripe, and no orange wingbars.

Prior experience with this and similar species:

In 1980 we had a female Varied Thrush, in approximately the same location - near the crabapple tree. She was duller and grayer, with chest band barely visible.

This report was written from notes made during X after observation; from memory .

NAME (print): Harold and Betty Oliver

Mailing address: 2787 S. Penny Street, Denver, Colorado 80236

Signature: _____

Return Form To: CFO Records Committee
c/o Curator - Dept. of Zoological Collections
Denver Museum of Natural History
City Park
Denver, CO 80205