



## The 78th Report of the Colorado Bird Records Committee

BY RACHEL HOPPER

CHAIR, COLORADO BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

### INTRODUCTION

This 78th report of the Colorado Bird Records Committee (hereafter CBRC or Committee) presents the results of deliberations of the CBRC involving one report submitted by three observers documenting one new addition to the Colorado state list. Per CBRC bylaws, all accepted records received a final 7-0 or 6-1 vote to accept. Therefore, with this publication, the Colorado list now stands at 514 species compared to 513 from the 77th Report (Peterson and Leukering 2020).

Committee members voting on this report were David Dowell (Longmont), Kathy Mihm Dunning (Denver), Mark Peterson (Colorado Springs), Bill Maynard (Colorado Springs), Steven Mlodinow (Longmont), Ric Olson (Castle Rock), and Jason St. Pierre (Durango).

### COMMITTEE NEWS

The CBRC continues to recruit excellent members from the local birding community. We welcome new member Cathy Sheeter (Aurora) to the committee and Tony Leukering (Dodge City, KS) has agreed to serve another term. Ending their terms on the committee are Peter Gent (Boulder) and Dan Maynard (Denver). CFO and the CBRC sincerely thank them for their years of dedicated service.

### COMMITTEE FUNCTIONS

The Committee solicits documentation of reports in Colorado for all species published in its Main Review List (<https://coloradobirdrecords.org/ReviewList.aspx>), species with no prior accepted record in Colorado and sightings of regularly occurring species that are considered out-of-range or out-of-season. Documentary materials should be submitted online at the CBRC website <https://coloradobirdrecords.org/>. Alternatively, one can request an electronic document from the Chair or Secretary (see this journal pg. 52 for contact information).

### REPORT FORMAT

The records in this report are arranged taxonomically following the American Ornithological Society's (AOS) Checklist of North American Birds (AOS 1998) through the 61st Supplement (Chesser et al. 2020). We present the initials of the contributing observer(s), the official accession number and the vote tally in the first round and, if relevant, the second and third rounds (with the number of "accept" votes on the left side of the dash). The initial observer of the bird is underlined if known and is presented first. Additional contributors follow in alphabetical order by last name. Observers submitting a photograph or video capture are indicated with a dagger (†). In this report, county names are italicized.

### ACCEPTED RECORD NEW TO THE STATE LIST

Ruddy Ground Dove - *Columbina talpacoti* (GS, CD†, PG†, RHT; 2020-022; 7-0). Found by George Steele at one of his backyard feeders in Norwood, San

Miguel, on 17 October 2020, this first state-record bird delighted many observers until 18 November 2020 (<https://ebird.org/checklist/S76454278>). Interestingly, on a single occasion, George Steele also found the bird about 1 mile east of his home on 15 November 2020 (<https://ebird.org/checklist/S76315158>). The Colorado bird was part of a large incursion by Ruddy Ground Doves into the ABA area which included 50+ birds in Arizona, multiple birds in Texas from five different locales, two birds in California, and a single bird in Nevada (Swarth 2020).

#### REPORTERS AND CITED OBSERVERS

The CBRC thanks the following individuals for submitting records of, or discovering and reporting, the new state species in Colorado discussed in this report: CD: Coen Dexter, RH: Rachel Hopper, PG: Peter Gent and GS: George Steele.

#### LITERATURE CITED

Chesser, R. T., S. M. Billerman, K. J. Burns, C. Cicero, J. L. Dunn, A. W. Kratter, I. J. Lovette, N. A. Mason, P. C. Rasmussen, J. V. Remsen, Jr., D. F. Stotz, and K. Winker. 2020. Sixty-first Supplement to the American Ornithologists' Union Checklist of North American Birds. *Auk* 137:1-24. <https://academic.oup.com/auk/article/137/3/ukaa030/5865308>.

Peterson, Mark, and Tony Leukering. 2020. The 77th Report of the Colorado Bird Records Committee. *Colorado Birds* 54(4):158-159.

Steele, George. 2020. eBird Checklist: <https://ebird.org/checklist/S76454278>. eBird: An online database of bird distribution and abundance [web application]. eBird, Ithaca, New York. Available: <http://www.ebird.org>. (Accessed: March 21, 2021).

Steele, George. 2020. eBird Checklist: <https://ebird.org/checklist/S76315158>. eBird: An online database of bird distribution and abundance [web application]. eBird, Ithaca, New York. Available: <http://www.ebird.org>. (Accessed: March 21, 2021).

Swarth, C. 2020. Western Field Ornithologists (WFO) December 2020 Newsletter. <https://westernfieldornithologists.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Dec2020-Newsletter.pdf>.

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## Field Trip Committee Report

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Sue Riffe (Chair), Nick Komar, Diana Beatty, Mark Peterson, Eric Hynes, Megan Miller, Jordan Spaulding, Allison Hilf

The CFO Field Trip Committee met twice during the first quarter of 2021. In January we discussed ideas for alternative programming due to COVID-19 restrictions and precautions. We developed a series of virtual Birding Skills Workshops that would be offered to CFO members monthly at no charge via Zoom. The proposal, which included a budget of \$150 per workshop to be offered to instructors as an honorarium, was approved by the CFO board of directors. As always, CFO officers and board members are exempt from receiving CFO honoraria. During the first two quarters of 2021, CFO presented five workshops including: "Colorado Raptor Identification" with Eric Hynes, "Colorado Gull Identification" with Nick Komar, "eBird for Everyone" with Ted Floyd, "Audio-enhanced Birding" with Nathan Pieplow and "Colorado Flycatcher Identification" with David Tonnissen. Recordings of these workshops are available on CFO's YouTube channel: [youtube.com/c/ColoradoFieldOrnithologists](https://youtube.com/c/ColoradoFieldOrnithologists).

The second committee meeting was held in March. Our goal was to develop in-person field trips for fall 2021. With COVID-19 vaccinations on the rise, the committee believed that restrictions will be lifted by that time and CFO members will be eager to participate in live events. Based on input from committee members and a state initiative to develop birding ecotourism in Sterling, Colorado, we developed a unique program called the CFO Shorebird Workshop that was proposed to the board on March 27. Our proposal included an online Birding Skills Workshop on shorebirds hosted by Eric Hynes and a series of guided weekend field trips to Jackson, Prewitt and Jumbo Reservoirs with additional locations to be determined.

Group sizes would be limited to 12 or fewer, depending on field trip leader preference as well as current COVID-19 restrictions, and of course state masking and distancing requirements will be followed. The program would be open to non-CFO members, and participants would be encouraged to join CFO. Overall event costs would be limited to some advertising expenses (to reach non-birding public) and travel expenses for trip leaders who are not CFO board members. We believe that the number of new CFO memberships generated by this activity would likely cover these costs.