

NEW STATE RECORD ☐

UNUSUAL RECORD ☒

Please print or type. Attach photographs and additional pages if necessary.

Species: Henslow's Sparrow Ammodramus henslowii
(Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name)

Date(s): AUG. 21, 1988

Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: unknown Plumage: intermediate

Locality: Red Lion Wildlife Area Elevation: 3705'

Nearest town: Crocket County: Logan

Time(s) observed: 2:30 - 2:55 PM

Duration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): 20-30 minutes intermediate

Other observers who saw the bird with you (give names, addresses, telephone numbers):

Joe Himmel 14th & Greeley, Co. 80631 (303-352-0288)

Bill Pratter Weld Co Rd No. 1, Loveland, Co. (303-776-2191)

Other observers who saw the bird independently (give names, addresses, telephone numbers)

None that I know about

Light conditions (position of bird to light and shade, direction and strength of light):

Good Light at our backs, full sun.

Optical equipment used (e.g. power, types): 20 X Spotting Scope up to 40 X

Distance, and how measured: 25 yards

If photographed, type of equipment and film: _____

Who else photographed the bird? _____

Describe the bird's behavior (e.g. flying, feeding, or habits used in identifying):

Somewhat secretive and we chased it about for 15-20 minutes before it alighted on an old downed fence in the open for about minutes.

Describe in detail the bird's relative size, overall shape, plumage and color pattern. Include details of bill, wing and tail shape. Give particular emphasis to marks you used to identify the bird. Reference to its resemblance to field guide descriptions and illustrations is not enough. Describe only what you actually observe in the field:

When it alighted in the open; average to slightly smaller than a normal 'sparrow'. Flat-headed bird with an apparent large bill, light colored bill. Olive colored head with 2 black whisker marks and black ear smudge. Eye DARK, slight whitish

eyering, dark line extending from the top of bill to the back of the head with a whitish-yellowish streak on the top of the crown. Back streaked with black and white and wings dull red. Rump and uppertail coverts brownish. Breast whitish with streaking all the way down the sides and halfway down the middle of the breast.

Describe the bird's song and call, if given, including method of delivery, (i.e. from perch, in flight, duration): A high pitched 'sip' note heard 5 to 10 times.

Describe the general and specific habitat in which you observed the bird:

Grassy area near a lake. The grass was about 1 1/2' high. Also cattails in the area.

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?

Baird's Sparrow - No olive in head or red in the wings, head stripe a rich buff color.

Grasshopper Sparrow - No olive in head or red in the wings. ~~SP~~ Lacks streaks on the breast.

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species?

I've seen hundreds of Hewson's Sparrow back in Ohio.

Also hundreds to thousands of Grasshopper Sparrows.

I've never seen a Baird's.

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

a) at time of observation: Geographic Field Guide to the Birds

b) after observation:

This report was written from reports made during _____, after observation from me

Date and time report was written: AUG 28, 1988

Reporting observer: Jerry Cairo

Signature: Jerry Cairo

Address: 2621 73rd Ave #36 Greeley, CO 80631

All reports will be maintained permanently at the address below:

Return to:

CURATOR, DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS
DENVER MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
CITY PARK
DENVER, CO 80205