

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS' SIGHT RECORD REPORT
☒ RARE OR UNUSUAL RECORD ☐ NEW STATE RECORD

CFO-ORC FILE #56-73-116

Accepted *JP* 3/5/75

Species: Sharp-tailed Sparrow
 (Vernacular Name) Ammodramus caudatus
 (Scientific Name-use binomial)

Date(s): 22 December 1973 Time Bird Seen: Approx 10:15 to 10:30

Locality: CF&I Lakes

Nearest Town: Pueblo

County: _____

Other observers who identified this bird:

NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
Van Truan	2510 Elizabeth St., Pueblo, CO 81003	
Ed Aronson	1421 Cherry St., Denver, CO 80220	

Optical Equipment: 7x35 Empire Model No. 240 binoculars

Light Conditions: Excellent

Distance from Bird (how measured): 50 ft. Estimated

Number of Birds Seen: 1 Sex: Unknown Plumage: Inland race

Overall Appearance and Size: Small, dark colored sparrow with a short pointed tail.

Detailed Description (describe only what was actually observed in the field):

Bill (shape and color): Stout, color indistinguishable

Legs (shape and color): Not observed

Crown and Forehead: Very dark unstreaked grey crown Eye (color): Dark

Nape: Dark grey to rusty Face: Grey ear patch, buffy Throat: White

Breast and Sides: buffy and streaked

Belly and Flanks: Belly buffy, flanks not observed

Undertail Coverts: Not observed

Back: Extremely rusty with white shoulder stripes

Wings: Edge of wings paler than back

Underwings: Not observed

Rump: Rusty Upper Tail Coverts: Rusty

Upper Side of Tail: Dark brown

Under Side of Tail: Not observed

Shape of Tail: Short, pointed, and sharply notched

Voice: Not heard

Behavior: Behaved tamely, flew for short distances, and spent most of its time either on the ground or in the reeds.

Habitat: Outflow stream from CF&I Lakes: dense reeds, brush, and marsh.

Prior Experience with this Species: First time observed Grasses

How Were Similarly Appearing Species Eliminated? The Sharp-tailed sparrow was first observed among approximately fifteen Song sparrows. After pursuing it away from the stream bed, we managed to separate it from the Song sparrows. The Sharp-tailed sparrow then returned by itself to the stream bed. Le Conte's sparrow was eliminated because it does not possess the dark unstreaked crown, streaked sides, and white shoulder stripes.

This Report was Written From: Notes made during immediately after X observation; Memory _____

Signed: (S) David McCargo Street Address: 3300 So. Washington St.

Date Prepared: 2 January 1974 Town and State: Englewood, CO ZIP: 80110

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS SIGHT RECORD REPORT
☒ RARE OR UNUSUAL RECORD ☐ NEW STATE RECORD

CFO-ORC FILE #56-73-146

Accepted J.R. 3/25/75

Species: Sharp-tailed Sparrow Ammodramus caudacuta
 (Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name-use binomial)

Date(s): December 22, 1973 Time Bird Seen: 10:15 to 10:30

Locality: CF & E Lakes

Nearest Town: Pueblo County: Pueblo

Other observers who identified this bird:

NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
Dave McCargo	Denver	
Ed Aremon	Denver	
Doug Messlage	1915 Sherwood Ln. Pueblo Colo.	

Optical Equipment: 7x35 Binoculars

Light Conditions: Cloudy skies but bright-light good

Distance from Bird (how measured): 15 to 6 feet estimated

Number of Birds Seen: 1 Sex: ? Plumage: Possibly immature

Overall Appearance and Size: Compared to song sparrow(which it was with) it was small in size, had a much shorter tail and more stocky.

Detailed Description (describe only what was actually observed in the field):

Bill (shape and color): dark-fairly pointed for seedeating type

Legs (shape and color): not noticed

Crown and Forehead: both dark gray and solid(no stripes) Eye (color): dark

Nape: grayish-brown plain Face: distinct gray earpatch Throat: very light

Breast and Sides: sides very buffy-orange-breast buffy-faint stripes on both

Belly and Flanks: both light brown to white

Undertail Coverts: not noticed

Back: drownish-red with distinct white stripes running down the back

Wings: plain-brownish

Underwings: not noticed

Rump: brownish-red Uppertail Coverts: brown

Upper Side of Tail: brown

Under Side of Tail: not noted

Shape of Tail: short and pointed at the end

Voice: none heard

Behavior: It was seen in a open stream(ditch) with cattails and sedges. The bird was on the ground and wet mud where it was moving about.

Habitat: Cattails and sedges

Prior Experience with this Species: I saw several in Florida in Jan. 1973
I'm not sure about the others

How Were Similarly Appearing Species Eliminated?

Le Conte's sparrow-has a striped crown and no distinct earpatch(gray)
Grasshopper sparrow-has striped crown-no gray earpatch
Lincoln's Sparrow-No pointed tail-no gray ear patch
Henslow's sparrow-No gray ear patch

This Report was written from: Notes made during after ☒ observation; Memory ☒

Signed: W.A. Hagan 2510 Elizabeth St,

Date Prepared: December 24, 1973 Street Address: Pueblo Colorado ZIP 61003
 Town and State

Return to: JACK PERDUE, 1440 South 14th Street, Englewood, Colorado 80120