

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD UNUSUAL RECORD

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

Species: Purple Gallinule
(Vernacular Name)Porphyryla martinica
(Scientific Name)Date(s): Aug. 6 & 7, 1978Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: ? Plumage: AdultLocality: La Plata County - Blue Lake So. East of Durango Elevation: 6,000 ft.Nearest town: Durango, Colo. county: La PlataTime(s) observed: Evening - 6:00 - 6:30 - Morning - 10:30 Am to 11:30Duration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): 30 Min. Aug 6. 1hr Aug 7.

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

Jane Owen, 100 Rio Vista Circle, Durango, Colo 81301Mary Fox 11440 No. 21st Ave - Phoenix, Ariz. 85029 -

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

Jim & Gloria ChildressHoward & Peggy WinklerCharles & June Babcock

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

Good light to very good & Bright Light - So. East of Bird Aug 7Optical equipment used (e.g. power, types): 2 7x35 Bushnell & 1 7x35 Bausch & Lomb Binoculars

Distance, and how measured:

If photographed, type of equipment and film: 200 ASA film 35 MM Sears SLR Camera & 500 mm Vivitar lensWho else photographed the bird? No one that I know of.

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

the bird walked through the weeds taking long steps feeding
seeming to be unafraid. It looked for food in the shallower parts of
the pond.

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 observed in the field:

Size: a little smaller than the leghorn chicken and also
about that shape. Plumage was very different; the coloring
seemed more blue than purple with white under tail coverts.
the bill was red with yellow tip (about $\frac{1}{3}$ of the bill) and
white above the red - or nearly white. The bill is
shaped like a chickens bill. Its legs were bright
yellow, with long toes, also yellow.

Description, (continued)

Describe the bird's song and call, if given, including method of delivery, (i.e. from perch, in flight, duration):

Describe the general and specific habitat in which you observed the bird: It was in a pond, fairly shallow with some kind of growing waterplants. the bird fed and waded among this growth.

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species? - the Common did not have the white above the Bill nor was it nearly as colorful. MarKings different. there is no other bird quite like this Purple Gallinule.

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species? I have seen the Common Gallinule in a pond So. of Phoenix, Ariz. several times.

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

a) at time of observation:

Birds of North America - Robbins, Bruun, Zim, Singer

b) after observation:

This report was written from notes made during , after observation; from memory And the pictures I took.

Date and time report was written: Oct. 14, 1978

Reporting observer: Elva Fox Signature: Elva Fox

Address: 53 Rio Vista Circle, Durango, Colo 81301

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, COLORADO 80205

(A)

CFO-ORC FILE # 17-78-55

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD

UNUSUAL RECORD

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

Species: Purple Gallinule
(Vernacular Name)

Iornornis Martinica
(Scientific Name)

Date(s): August 6 1978

Number of birds seen: one Sex: Adult Plumage: Adult

Locality: About 8 miles south of Durango Elevation: 6500 + -

Nearest town: Durango, Colorado County: La Plata

Time(s) observed: Once

Duration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.) Ten minutes

Other observers who saw the bird with you (give names, addresses, telephone numbers):
Mrs. Howard A. Winkler- 147 Riverview- Durango, Colo- 1-303-247-0199

Other observers who saw the bird independently (give names, addresses, telephone numbers):
Mrs. Frank Nordstrom- Farmington, New Mexico (She called me about the bird)

Mrs. Elva Fox- 53 Rio Vista Circle- Durango- 247- 5890

Light conditions (position of bird to light and shade, direction and strength of light):
Light was to our right from the west in late afternoon 3PM and excellent visibility

Optical equipment used (e.g. power, types): 10x50 wide angle Bushnell

Distance, and how measured: 30 feet estimated

If photographed, type of equipment and film: Believe Mrs. Fox took some pictures and will send them along later.

Who else photographed the bird? Don't know

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

Feeding on the pond lilies, stepping on the pads, reaching forward to grasp the far side and roll the far sides of the leaf then would daintily hold one foot on the leaf and pick the bugs. Was exceedingly unconcerned and was the only inhabitant of the small pond.

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 observed in the field:

Seemed about the size of a coot or perhaps a bit larger-plumage was brilliant- bill was reddish orange- tipped with yellow- frontal shield was a vivid blue- head and underparts bright purple back and wings bluish green iridescent- legs and feet yellow- under tail coverts white and striped as it bobbed up and down when tail was elevated.

(OVER)

Description, (continued)

Describe the bird's song and call, if given, including method of delivery, (i.e. from perch, in flight, duration): - No audible notes

Describe the general and specific habitat in which you observed the bird:
Pond along the side of road with much aquatic vegetation

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species? Readily.
ot- All sooty black gray- White bill- frontal shield brownish
orida Gallinule- Frontal shield and most of bill scarlet orange- head and throat black - outer
ndertail coverts white . Back brownish black. In other words there was no question as to
he identity of the bird.

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

Seen many times in the south as well as its relatives the gallinule and coot. No mistaking
is fellow.

List books, illustrations, recordings, other birders, etc. consulted and how this
influenced your identification: None

a) at time of observation:

b) after observation:

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

Date and time report was written: August 8 1978 1730

Reporting observer: Howard A. Winkler, M.D. Signature: Howard A. Winkler

Address: 147 Riverview- Durango- Colorado 81301

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