

17-95-25

ACCEPTED 7-0

17-95-25

SPECIES: BLACK RAIL

LATERALLUS JAMAICENSIS

(Vernacular Name)

(Scientific Name)

DATE(S): 5-18-95, 5-19-95 TIME OF OBSERVATION: 10:30 A.M. TO 8:00 A.M.

EXACT LOCATION: MARSHES ON NORTH SIDE OF JOHN MARTIN RESERVOIR

NEAREST TOWN: COUNTY:

OTHER OBSERVERS WHO INDEPENDENTLY IDENTIFIED THIS BIRD:

DAVE LEATHERMAN (FT. COLLINS)

DAVE ELY (FT. COLLINS)

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT:

WEATHER CONDITIONS: SLIGHTLY OVERCAST

BIRD/SUN ORIENTATION: NIGHTTIME ON 5-18, SOMEWHAT BRIGHT ON MORNING OF 5-19

DISTANCE FROM BIRD AND HOW MEASURED: 40 YDS ON 5-18, 15 FEET ON 5-19, APPROXIMATE

NUMBER OF BIRDS SEEN: 11 HEARD SEX: PLUMAGE:

BEHAVIOR AND DEMEANOR:

HEAD &amp; NECK (forehead, crown, auricular &amp; malar regions, median line, etc.):

EYES &amp; LORES (supercilium, eye-ring, eye-stripe, color, etc.):

LOWER &amp; UPPER MANDIBLES (color &amp; shape):

LEGS &amp; FEET:

UPPERPARTS (nape, back, rump, uppertail coverts, etc.):

UNDERPARTS (chin, throat, belly, sides, flanks, crissum, etc.):

RETRICES (inner, middle & outer tail feathers; color, pattern, shape, etc.):

WINGS (color, length, shape, bars, coverts, etc.):

VOCALIZATION (call/song, method of delivery, i.e., from perch, in flight):

KICKEEDOO CALL EVERY 3-5 SECONDS ON 5-18; MORE OFTEN ON MORNING OF 5-19

HABITAT:

ELIMINATION OF SIMILARLY APPEARING SPECIES:

NO OTHER BIRDS IN AREA CALL LIKE BLACK RAIL, ESPECIALLY AT NIGHT

PRIOR EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND SIMILARLY APPEARING SPECIES:

NONE, BUT CONSULTED PETERSON'S BIRD CALLS ~~AND~~

BOOKS, ILLUSTRATIONS AND ADVICE CONSULTED THAT INFLUENCED THIS REPORT:

CASSETTE TAPE OF PETERSON'S BIRD CALLS; A CASSETTE TAPE OF BLACK RAIL CALLS RECORDED FROM JOHN MARTIN MARSH IN 1975

THIS REPORT WRITTEN FROM NOTES MADE DURING ☒ AFTER ☐ OBSERVATION; ☐ FROM MEMORY

NAME: JOSEPH MAMMOSER SIGNATURE: Joseph Mammoser DATE: 6-5-95

CFO-ORC-FILE# \_\_\_\_\_

## COLORADO RARE BIRD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD \_\_\_\_ RARE RECORD X UNUSUAL RECORD \_\_\_\_

**Species:** *Black Rail*  
(Vernacular Name)

*Laterallus jamaicensis*  
(Scientific Name)

**Dates:** June 29, 1995.

**Number of birds seen:** 1.

**Sex:** unknown.

**Plumage:** Adult.

**Locality:** Bent's Old Fort Marsh.

**Elevation:** 4,100 feet.

**Nearest town:** La Junta.

**County:** Otero.

**Time observed:** 8:30-8:45AM.

**Duration of observation:** 10  
minutes.

**Other observers with you:**

Bob Goycoolea of Colorado Springs, CO (719)-390-6266.

**Other observers who saw the bird independently:**

In May, many birders heard Black Rails at this sight.

**Light conditions:**  
excellent.

**Optical equipment:**

10X40 Baucsh & Lomb Binoculars .

**Distance from bird:**

2-30 yards.

**Describe the bird's behavior:**

The bird called from the marsh floor. It walked within two feet of us. I walked toward where I believed the bird was a the bird flew, giving us good flight views.

**Describe the bird:**

We only saw the bird in flight. The size was about 6 inches. The overall shape was typical rail shaped. The plumage was an adult. The color pattern follows: the whole bird was black, except for the chestnut patch on the nape. This field mark was seen by both Bob and I, and know other small black rail has a chestnut patch on the nape. I identified the bird by the small black rail shape, by the chestnut colored patch on the nape, and by the bird's "ki ki doo" call/song and the bird's "growl sounds".

**Describe the bird's song and call if heard:**

The bird gave a "ki ki doo" call/song many times. The bird also gave a "growl" sound many times.

**Describe the habitat in which you observed the bird:**

The bird was observed in a marsh with cattails and reeds in Southeastern Colorado.

**How did you eliminate similarly appearing species:**

Sora: This species is larger than Black Rail and does not have the chestnut patch on the nape like Black Rails do.

Other Rails: These species are all larger and not black.

No other bird makes a ki ki doo sound like Black Rails do.

**What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species:**

I have seen one bird previously at this site on May 18, 1991. I have heard Black Rails at Bent's Old Fort Marsh in 1991, 1992, 1994, 1995 and at the Fort Lyon Area marshes in 1994 and 1995. On May 12, 1995 Van Truan and I heard 16 different Black Rails these two marshes, being my largest total in one night in Colorado.

**List books if they helped in your identification:**

None needed.

This report was written from reports made during \_\_\_\_, after observation ☒ from memory \_\_\_\_

Reporting observer: Brandon K. Percival Signature: Brandon K. Percival

Address: 835 Harmony Drive, Pueblo West, Colorado 81007-2604 (719)-547-3722



CFO-ORC-FILE# \_\_\_\_\_

## COLORADO RARE BIRD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD \_\_\_\_ RARE RECORD X UNUSUAL RECORD \_\_\_\_

**Species:** *Black Rail*  
(Vernacular Name)

*Laterallus jamaicensis*  
(Scientific Name)

**Dates:** July 16, 1995.

**Number of birds heard:** one.

**Sex:** unknown.

**Plumage:** adult.

**Locality:** A marsh on Road HH, west of Fort Lyon.

**Elevation:** 3,870 feet.

**Nearest town:** Fort Lyon.

**County:** Bent.

**Time observed:** We heard the bird between 9:15-9:45AM. **Duration of observation:** 10 minutes.

**Other observers with you:**

Van A. Truan 1901 Court Street, Pueblo, Colorado 81003. (719-543-4744).  
Jolan Truan 4220 West Diana Ave. Phoenix, AZ.

**Other observers who saw the bird independently:**

In May many birders heard Black Rails at this location.

**Light conditions:**  
excellent.

**Optical equipment:**  
ears only.

**Distance from bird:**  
3 feet-25 yards.

**Describe the bird's behavior:**

The bird was first heard about 25 yards off the road in the marsh. When we played our tape the bird walked within 3 feet. We never saw the bird. It made it's ki ki doo call/song several times.

**Describe the bird:**

We only heard this bird. It gave it's typical ki ki doo call/song several times, when we were trying to see it.

**Describe the bird's song and call if heard:**

The bird gave a ki ki doo call/song several times.

**Describe the habitat in which you observed the bird:**

The bird was found in a marsh with cattails and reed in Southeastern Colorado.

**How did you eliminate similarly appearing species:**

No other bird sounds like a Black Rail's ki ki doo.

**What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species:**

I have seen two in Colorado on May 18, 1991 and June 29, 1995 at Bent's Old Fort Marsh. I have heard at least 16 differnt birds on May 12, 1995 in Otero & Bent Counties. On May 7, 1994 I heard six birds at the same locations as on May 12, 1995. Also I have heard Black Rails in Colorado in 1992.

**List books if they helped in your identification:**

None needed.

This report was written from reports made during \_\_\_\_, after observation **X** from memory\_\_\_\_

Reporting observer: Brandon K. Percival Signature: Brandon K. Percival

Address: 835 Harmony Drive, Pueblo West, Colorado 81007-2604 (719)-547-3722